#### Analyze the Pulse experiment

What Research Question should we target?

What analysis should we do?

In what way might we argue this is a mensurative experiment?

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In what way might we argue this is a mensurative experiment?

Scope: All UCD grad students at any time

~mensurative (no generalization)

We've really only observed an effect 1x

Scope: All UCD grad students last Tuesday at 10:30am

manipulative

If we observe an effect with high confidence we can state confidently that standing has an effect at least in some contexts

```
data: standing_obs and sitting_obs

t = 0.49948, df = 64, p-value = 0.6192

alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:

-5.674927 9.458711

sample estimates:

mean of x mean of y

79.00000 77.10811
```

What do these numbers mean?

### What is a Treatment Effect?

How much did standing affect pulses on average in the context of Class 1?

#### Observations:

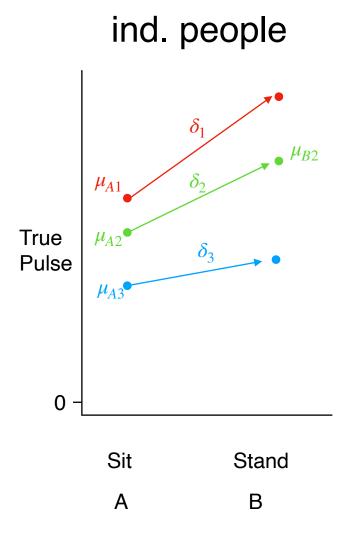
Everyone started with a different pulse while sitting

The change when standing was different for each person that stood

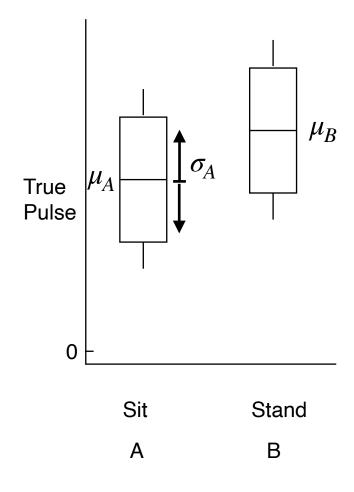
Each observation had measurement error

It's not useful (scientifically) to report the effect for each person

### What is a Treatment Effect?



Population



Average (mean) units: bpm

$$\mu_A = \frac{\mu_{A1} + \mu_{A2} + \mu_{A3} + \dots + \mu_{AN}}{N} = \frac{\sum \mu_{Aj}}{N}$$

Variance (Average deviation^2)

$$\sigma_A^2 = \frac{\sum (\mu_{Aj} - \mu_A)^2}{N}$$

$$\sigma_\delta^2 = \frac{\sum (\delta_j - \delta)^2}{N}$$
units: bpm^2

**SD** (Standard deviation)  $\sigma_{\delta} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\delta}^2}$  ~ average abs(deviation) units: bpm

 $\mu_{A1}$  Pulse of person 1 in treatment\_level A

 $\delta_1$  Effect of standing for person 1

 $\mu_A$  Average pulse in treatment\_level A

 $\delta_{B-A}$  Average effect of standing

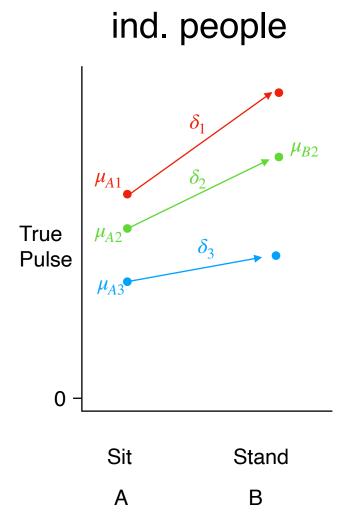
Stand-Sit

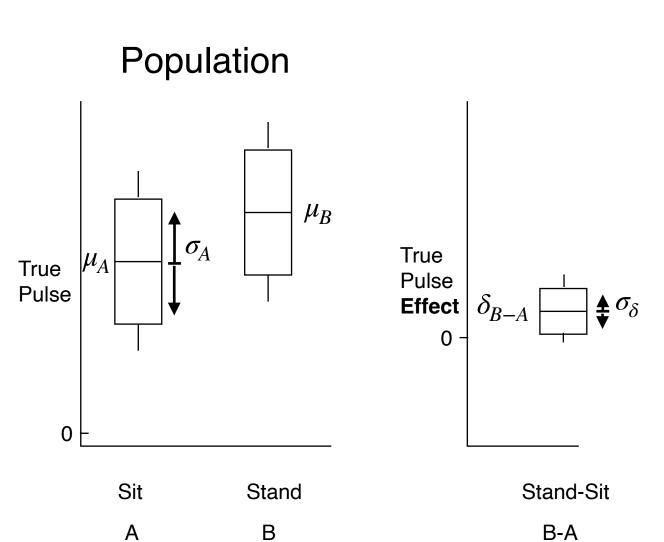
B-A

These are all **TRUE values** 

They exist, but we can't know them

# Why focus on the Population?



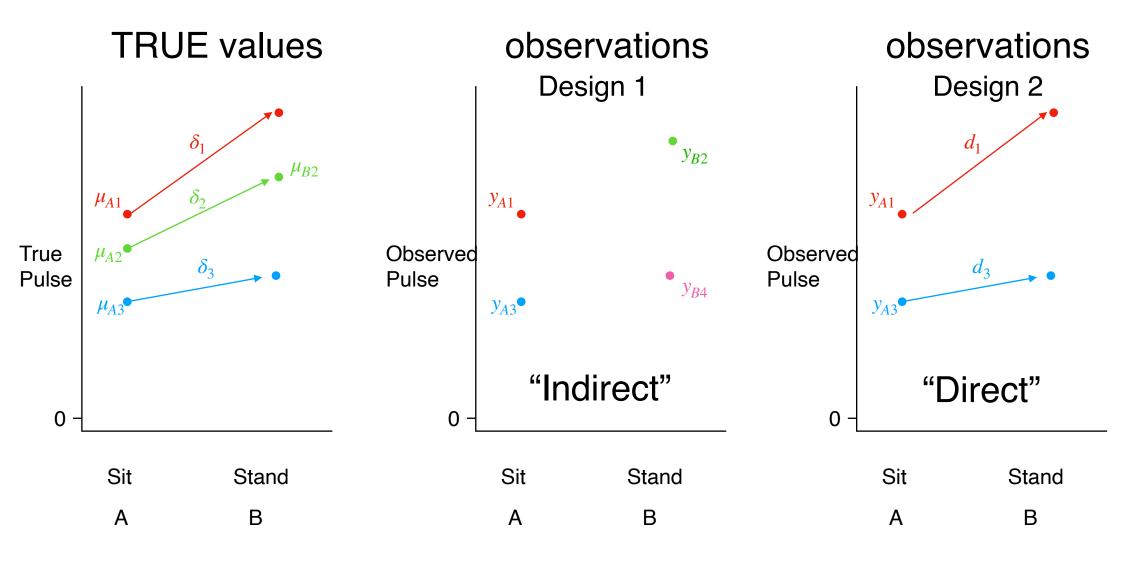


If we learn the **population** mean and variance ...

We can generalize to **new** individuals

"our" individuals are just examples to learn from

## We can't observe the population

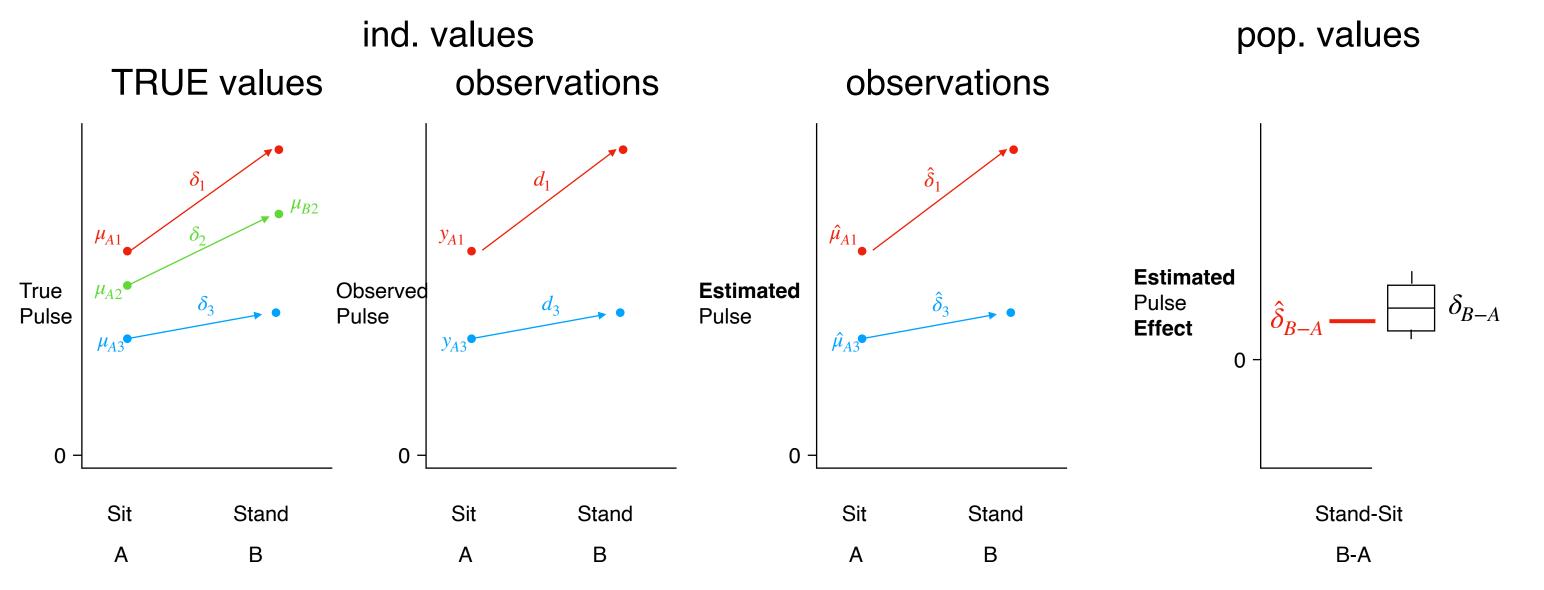


- **Observed pulse** of person 1 in treatment\_level A
- Observed effect of standing for person 1

We only observe some of the population

Each observation has error  $y_{A1} - \mu_{A1} = \epsilon_{A1}$ 

### We use the observations to estimate the TRUE values



- $\hat{\mu}_{A1}$  Estimated Pulse of person 1 in treatment\_level A
- $\hat{\delta}_1$  Estimated effect of standing for person 1

$$\hat{\mu}_{A1} = y_{A1} \qquad \hat{\delta}_1 = d_1$$

Estimated average effect of standing 
$$\hat{\delta} = \frac{\sum \hat{\delta}_j}{\hat{\delta}_j}$$

## This procedure inherently has error

Our estimate will not equal the true value:  $\hat{\delta}_{B-A} - \delta_{B-A} = \epsilon$ 

We call  $\epsilon$  our **error** 

Causes of error:

Sampling error: we didn't sample the whole population

Measurement error: we each observation was noisy

We can't know  $\epsilon$ . But we can state the **typical size** of  $\epsilon^2$ 

\*for **Direct estimates**\*

Variance of population + Variance of measurements

Sample size

$$=\frac{\sigma_{\delta}^2 + \sigma_m^2}{n} \qquad = \sigma_r^2(\hat{\delta})$$

 $\sigma_r(\hat{\delta})$  is called **Standard Error** 

~ Average error if you were to repeat the experiment many times

Goal: Create experiments that minimize the standard error

## Summary

#### Notation:

Greek letters  $(\mu, \delta, \sigma, \epsilon)$  represent TRUE values

Roman letters (y, d, e, s, n) represent observation, data

Greek letters with hats  $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\delta})$  are estimates (calculated from data to estimate TRUE values)

Subscripts represent subgroups: (letters are treatments, numbers are replicates)

#### Concepts:

Goal: Learn about population means

Each experimental result has an associated error

The average size of this error is a property of the experimental design (standard error:  $\sigma_r(\hat{\delta})$ )

\*for **Direct estimates**\*

Variance of population + Variance of measurements

Sample size

### **Prepare for Tuesday:**

Read Hurlbert 1984 up to "Interspersion of Treatments"

#### Questions:

Was the Pulse Experiment **sufficiently controlled** so that we can interpret our treatment effect estimate as a valid estimate of **the effect of standing**?

There are 3 ways to reduce the standard error in this experiment.

$$\sigma_{\!r}(\hat{\delta}) = \sqrt{\begin{array}{c} \text{Variance of population + Variance of measurements} \\ \text{Sample size} \end{array}}$$

Should we try to reduce all 3?