

Math 107

Hypothesis Tests: p-values
(Sections 4.2 & 4.4)

Paul the Octopus



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ESGpRUMj9E>

Hypotheses

- In 2008, Paul the Octopus predicted 8 World Cup games, and predicted them all correctly.
- Is this evidence that Paul's chance of guessing correctly, p , is really greater than 50%?
- What are the appropriate hypotheses?
 1. $H_0 : p \neq 0.5$ vs. $H_a : p = 0.5$
 2. $H_0 : p = 0.5$ vs. $H_a : p \neq 0.5$
 3. $H_0 : p = 0.5$ vs. $H_a : p > 0.5$
 4. $H_0 : p > 0.5$ vs. $H_a : p = 0.5$

**How do we measure
how unusual a
sample statistic is,
if the null is true?**

Measure Evidence Against the Null

To see if a statistic provides evidence against the null hypothesis, we need to understand what values of the sample statistic we would observe just by random chance, **assuming that the null hypothesis is true.**

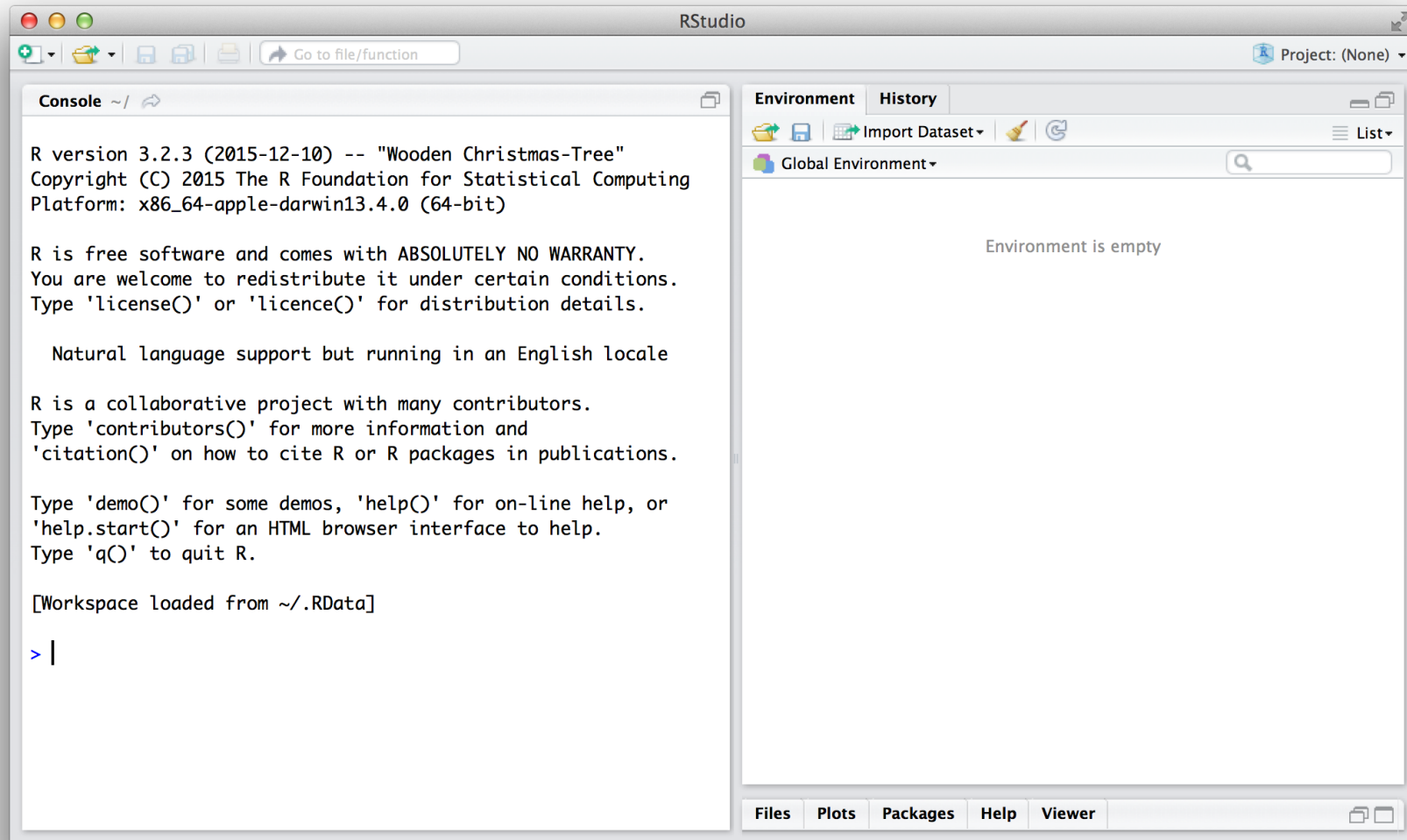
Paul the Octopus

- We need to know what values of the sample statistics we would observe just by random chance, if the null hypothesis were true.
- How could we figure this out?

Simulation

- We can simulate this choice with a fair coin.
- Heads = correct guess
- Tails = incorrect guess
- Chance of heads = $1/2$ = probability Paul will guess correctly
- One repetition = one set of 8 coins flips

R Demo



Randomization Distribution

A **randomization distribution** is a collection of statistics from samples simulated by assuming that the null hypothesis is true.

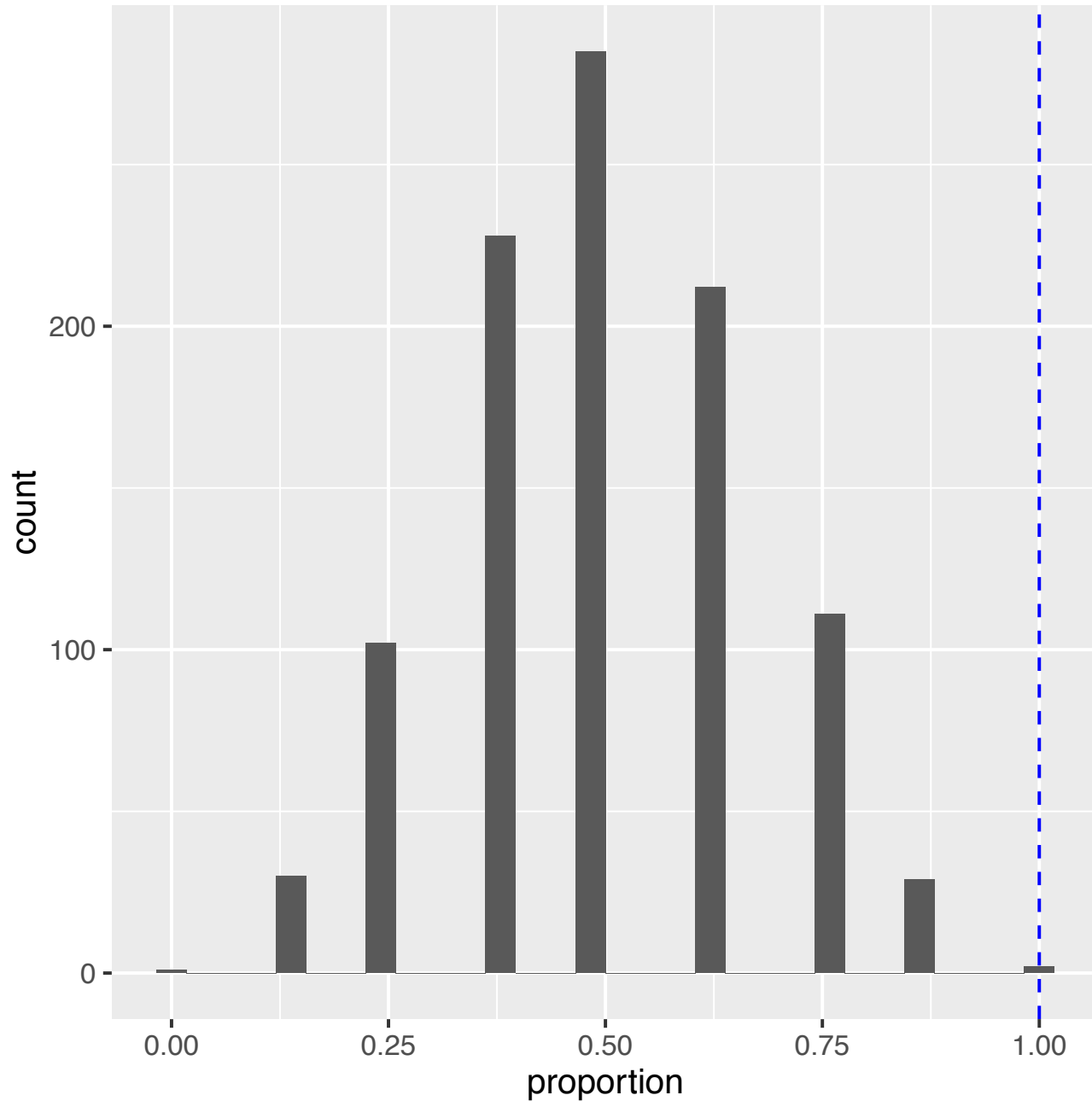
i.e. a distribution of what we would expect to observe by random chance, if the null hypothesis were true.

Quantifying Evidence

The **p-value** is the chance of obtaining a sample statistic as extreme as (or more extreme than) the observed sample statistic, if the null hypothesis is true

Calculation: the proportion of statistics in a randomization distribution that are as extreme as (or more extreme than) the observed sample statistic

1000 Simulations



Alternative Hypothesis

- A **one-sided** alternative contains either $>$ or $<$
- A **two-sided** alternative contains \neq
- The p-value is the proportion in the tail in the direction specified by H_a
- For a two-sided alternative, the p-value is twice the proportion in the smallest tail

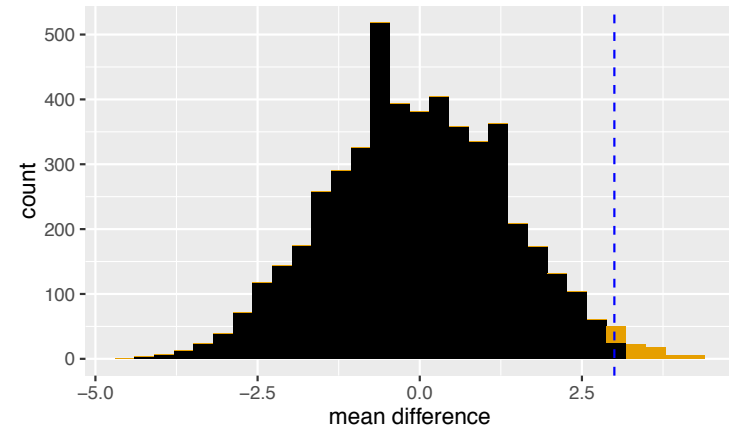
p-value and H_a

Upper-tail
(Right Tail)

$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$

$H_a: \mu_1 > \mu_2$

Observe: 3

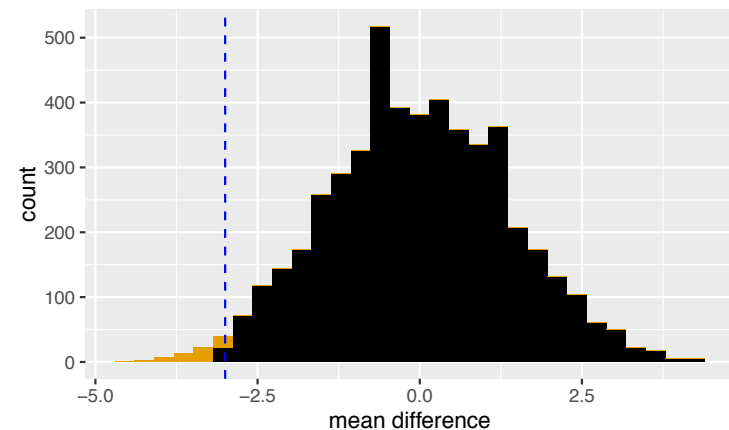


Lower-tail
(Left Tail)

$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$

$H_a: \mu_1 < \mu_2$

Observe: -3



Two-tailed

$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$

$H_a: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$

Observe: 3

