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Dr. A. F. Spilhaus, Jr., Editor in Chief, *Eos* 

Dear Dr. Spilhaus,

I hereby submit my manuscript "Hypothesis testing in geology" for publication in Eos. The paper argues against the use of statistical hypothesis tests in the Earth Sciences. Geologists are increasingly relying on statistical tests for the interpretation of their analytical data. I believe that this is a dangerous trend, because there are trivial yet fundamental reasons why such tests are unsuitable for geology. During my research for this opinion piece, I discovered that similar letters have been published in other disciplines, such as econometrics and psychology. I believe that a similar warning for the Earth Sciences is long overdue. Although I am a geochronologist by training, I used a geophysical example in my article which might spark an interesting discussion by itself.

I am looking forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely yours,

Pieter Vermeesch

