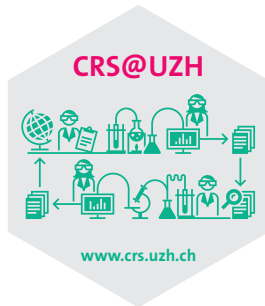# Tutorial on the R package ReplicationSuccess

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Installation

– Linux / Windows

```
install.packages(pkgs = "ReplicationSuccess",
                 repos ="http://R-Forge.R-project.org")
```

– Mac

```
install.packages(pkgs = "ReplicationSuccess",
                 repos = "http://R-Forge.R-project.org",
                 type = "source")
```

Replication studies

Direct replication

– Repeating original study using the same methodology

$\rightarrow$ Tool to assess credibility of scientific discoveries

$\rightarrow$ Regulatory requirement

Replication studies

Direct replication

- – Repeating original study using the same methodology
- → Tool to assess credibility of scientific discoveries
- → Regulatory requirement

Replication crisis

- – Low replicability of many scientific discoveries
- → Increased interest in meta-science
- → Large-scale replication projects

Large-scale replication projects

– 2015: Reproducibility project psychology

Large-scale replication projects

– 2015: Reproducibility project psychology

– 2016: Experimental economics replication project

Large-scale replication projects

- – 2015: Reproducibility project psychology
- – 2016: Experimental economics replication project
- – 2018: Experimental philosophy replicability project

Large-scale replication projects

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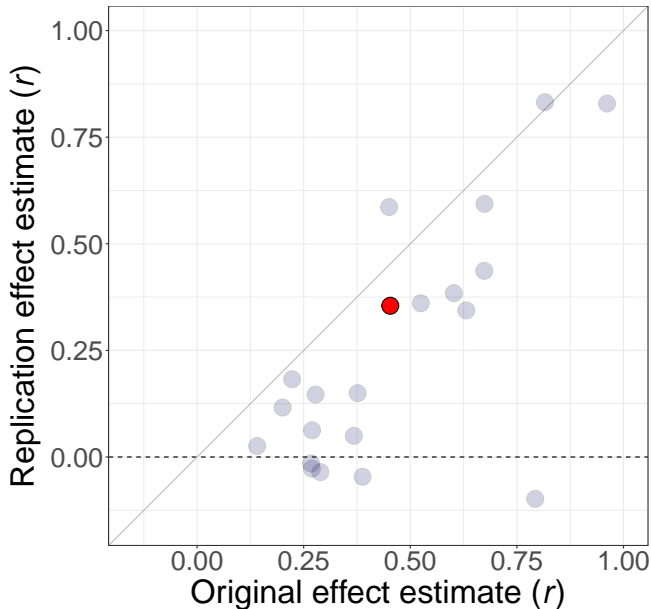- – 2018: Social sciences replication project

Large-scale replication projects

- 2015: Reproducibility project psychology
- 2016: Experimental economics replication project
- 2018: Experimental philosophy replicability project
- 2018: Social sciences replication project
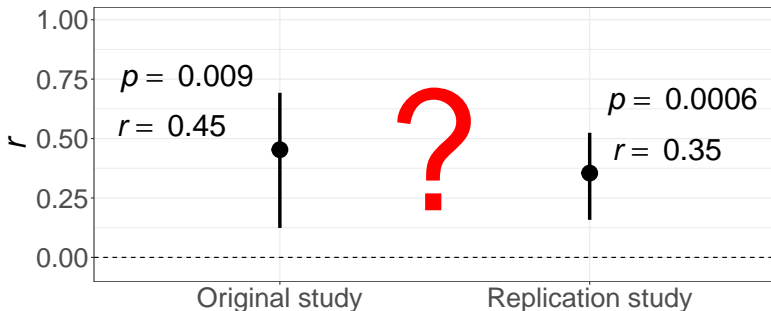
Social sciences replication project
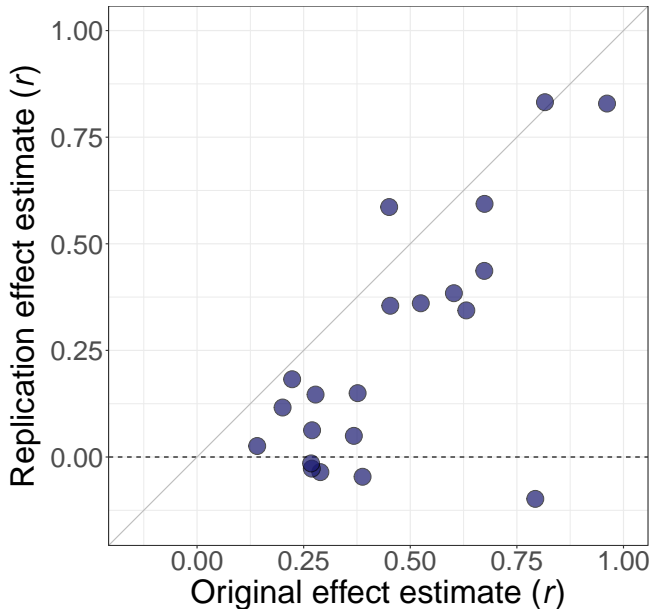
Social sciences replication project

Morewedge et al. (2010). Science
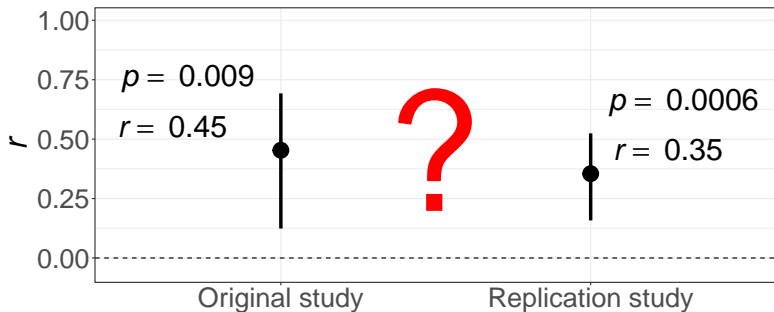
Original discovery

"Repeatedly imagining eating a food subsequently reduces the actual consumption of that food"

When is a replication successful?

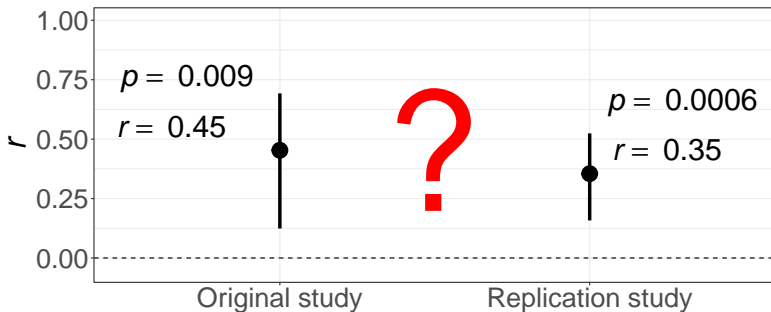Some proposed criteria for replication success

1. Statistical significance

When is a replication successful?

Some proposed criteria for replication success
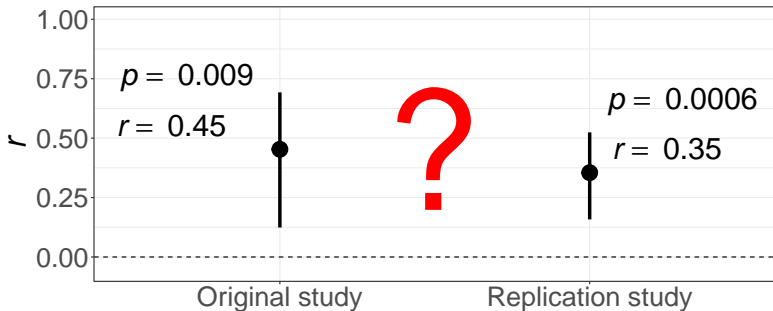
1. Statistical significance
2. Comparison of effect estimates

When is a replication successful?

Some proposed criteria for replication success

1. Statistical significance
2. Comparison of effect estimates
3. Reverse Bayes methods

Drawbacks of approaches

– Signficiance can always be achieved by increasing sample size
– Estimates can be compatible but uninformative

Design of replication studies

Replication sample size

- Direct replication $\rightarrow$ procedures of replication study as closely matched as possible to original study

- But proper sample size calculation is essential and depends on analysis strategy

Design of replication studies

What is used in practice

– Standard power calculation

– Depending on the projects, goal is to have between 80% and 95% power in the replication study to detect the effect estimate from the original study

– Shrinkage of the original effect estimate is sometimes used (e.g. in Camerer et al. (2018))

Design of replication studies

Issues with this method

    – Uncertainty of original effect estimate is ignored

    – Heterogeneity between original and replication study is not taken into account

    – Arbitrary shrinkage methods

Package

To add: small intro to package (goal, structure etc)

Statistical framework of package

– Effect estimates are assumed to be normally distributed

    $\rightarrow$ usually fulfilled after suitable transformation

– Relative quantities (as opposed to absolute quantities)

    $\rightarrow$ p-value or test statistic of original study

    $\rightarrow$ Relative sample size n_r/n_o

– Design prior

    $\rightarrow$ Conditional: ignores uncertainty of original study

    $\rightarrow$ Predictive: reflects that there is still uncertainty about the true effect after the original experiment

Statistical framework of package

Suggestion: Use the example from Morewedge to illustrate relative quantities?

Approaches (title not optimal)

1. Statistical significance

Two functions:

- `powerSignificance()` and `sampleSizeSignificance()`

Main arguments

- `po` or `to`: *p*-value or test statistic of the original study
- `c`: relative sample size n_r/n_o (only for `powerSignificance`)
- `power`: desired level of replication power (only for `sampleSizeSignificance()`)
- `designPrior`: conditional or predictive
- `shrinkage`

– powerSignficance + arguments – sampleSizeSignificance
+ arguments – exercises

Comparison of effect size

– predictionInterval – sampleSizePI – sampleSizePIwidth

Reverse Bayes

– pSceptical – powerReplicationSuccess –
sampleSizeReplicationSuccess

Outlook

– Interim – Heterogeneity – EB shrinkage

References

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