

## Statistics for Linguists with R – a SIGIL course

### Unit 2: Corpus Frequency Data & Statistical Inference

Marco Baroni<sup>1</sup> & Stefan Evert<sup>2</sup>

<http://SIGIL.R-Forge.R-Project.org/>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Mind/Brain Sciences, University of Trento

<sup>2</sup>Corpus Linguistics Group, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

## Frequency estimates & comparison

- ◆ How often is *kick the bucket* really used?
  - ◆ What are the characteristics of “translationese”?
  - ◆ Do Americans use more split infinitives than Britons? What about British teenagers?
  - ◆ What are the typical collocates of *cat*?
  - ◆ Can the next word in a sentence be predicted?
  - ◆ Do native speakers prefer constructions that are grammatical according to some linguistic theory?
- ➡ evidence from frequency comparisons / estimates

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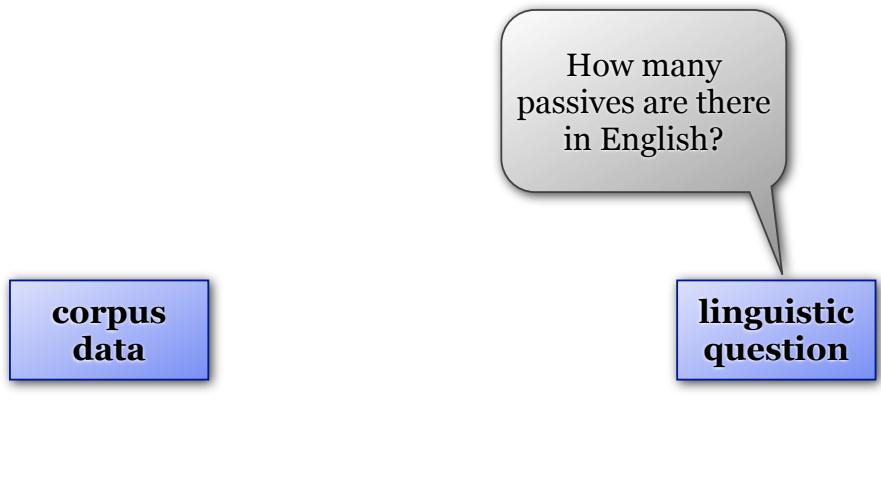
## A simple toy problem

*How many passives are there in English?*

- ◆ American English style guide claims that
  - “In an average English text, no more than 15% of the sentences are in passive voice. So use the passive sparingly, prefer sentences in active voice.”
  - <http://www.ego4u.com/en/business-english/grammar/passive> actually states that only 10% of English sentences are passives (as of January 2009)!
- ◆ We have doubts and want to verify this claim

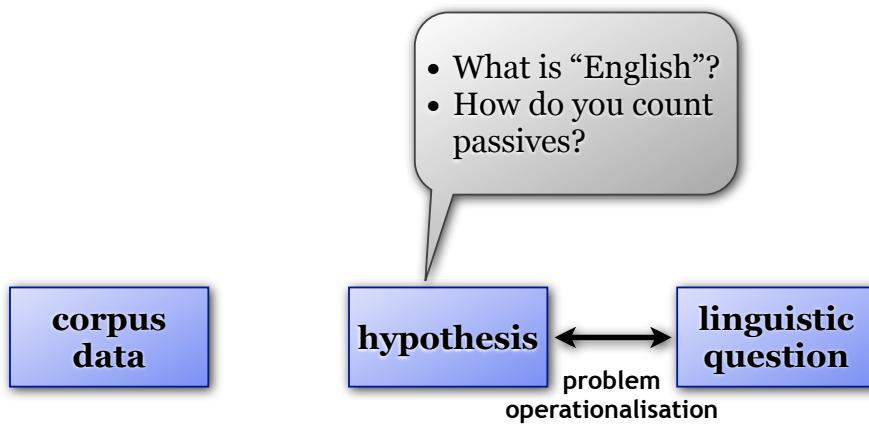
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## From research question to statistical analysis



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## From research question to statistical analysis



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## What is English?

- ◆ Sensible definition: group of speakers
  - e.g. American English as language spoken by native speakers raised and living in the U.S.
  - may be restricted to certain communicative situation
- ◆ Also applies to definition of sublanguage
  - dialect (Bostonian, Cockney), social group (teenagers), genre (advertising), domain (statistics), ...
- ◆ Here: professional writing by native speakers of AmE ( $\Leftrightarrow$  target audience of style guide)

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## How do you count passives?

- ◆ Types vs. tokens
  - **type count**: How many *different* passives are there?
  - **token count**: How many *instances* are there?
- ◆ How many passive tokens are there in English?
  - infinitely many, of course!
- ◆ **Absolute frequency** is not meaningful here

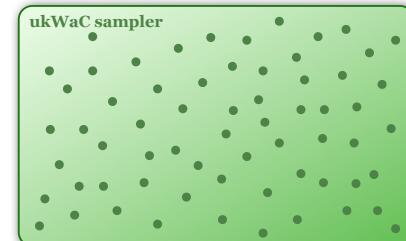
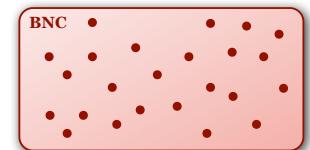


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## Against “absolute” frequency

- ◆ Are there **20,000** passives?
  - Brown (1M words)
- ◆ Or **1 million**?
  - BNC (90M words)
- ◆ Or **5.1 million**?
  - ukWaC sampler (450M words)

Brown  
• •



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## How do you count passives?

- ◆ Only **relative frequency** can be meaningful!
- ◆ What is a sensible unit of measurement?
  - ... **20,300 per million words?**
  - ... **390 per thousand sentences?**
  - ... **28 per hour** of recorded speech?
  - ... **4,000 per book?**
- ◆ How many passives could there be at most?

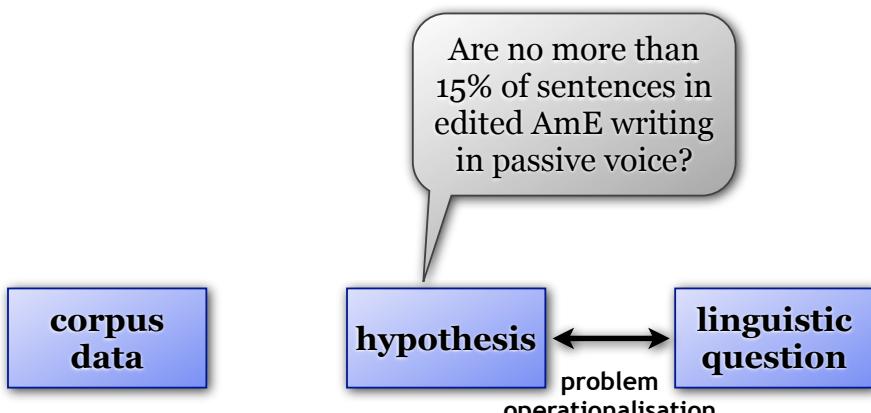
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## How do you count passives?

- ◆ How many passives could there be at most?
  - every VP can be in active or passive voice
  - frequency of passives has a meaningful interpretation by comparison with frequency of potential passives
- ◆ What proportion of VPs are in passive voice?
  - easier: proportion of sentences that contain a passive
  - in general, proportion wrt. some **unit of measurement**
- ◆ **Relative frequency = proportion  $\pi$**

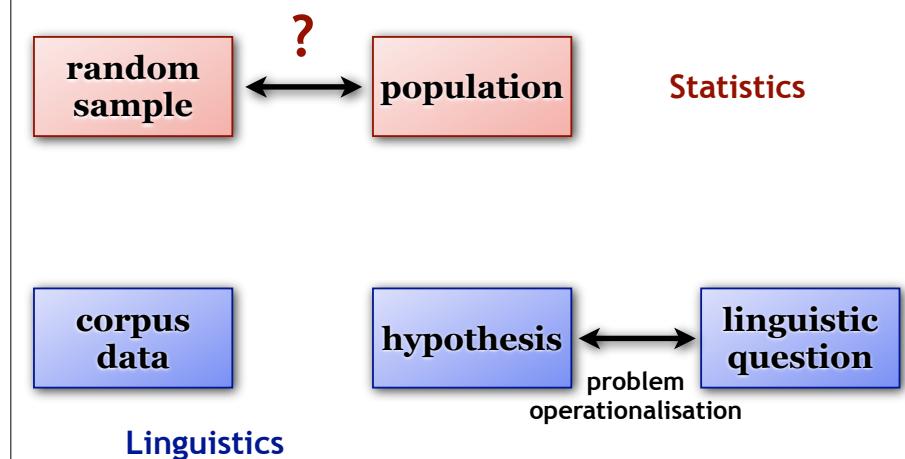
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## From research question to statistical analysis



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## From research question to statistical analysis



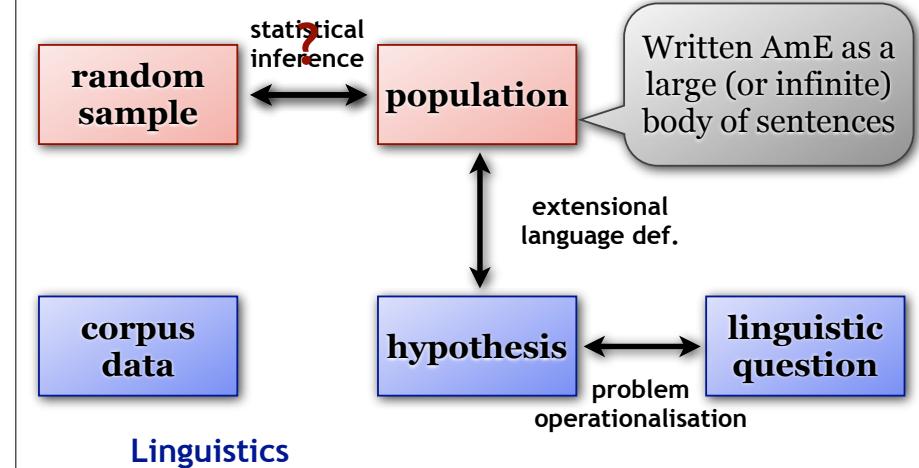
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## Using inferential statistics

- ◆ Statistics deals with similar problems:
  - goal: determine properties of **large population** (human populace, objects produced in factory, ...)
  - method: take (completely) **random sample** of objects, then extrapolate from sample to population
  - this works only because of **random** sampling!
- ◆ Many statistical methods are readily available

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## From research question to statistical analysis



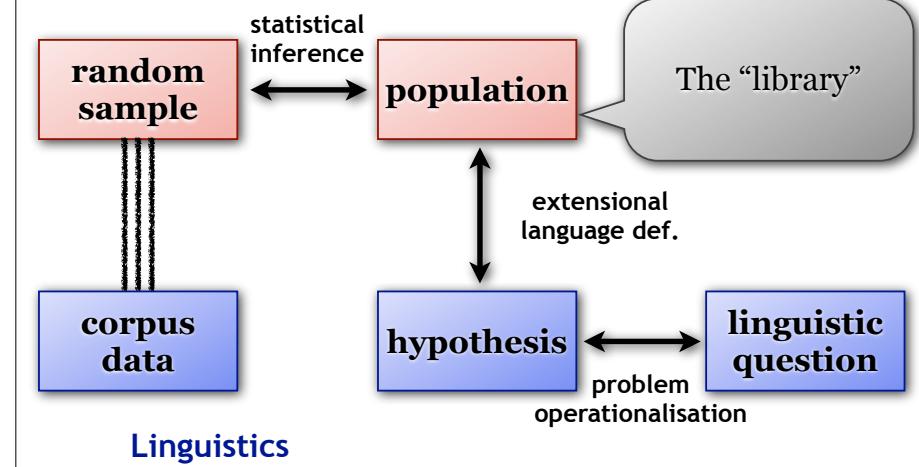
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## The library metaphor

- ◆ Extensional definition of a language:  
“All utterances made by speakers of the language under appropriate conditions, plus all utterances they *could* have made”
- ◆ Imagine a huge library with all the books written in a language, as well as all the hypothetical books that have never been written  
→ **library metaphor** (Evert 2006)

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## From research question to statistical analysis



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## A random sample of a language

- ◆ Apply statistical procedure to linguistic problem
  - ⇒ need random sample of objects from population
- ◆ Quiz: *What are the objects in our population?*
  - words? sentences? texts? ...
- ◆ Objects = whatever **unit of measurement** the proportions of interest are based on
  - we need to take a random sample of such units

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## Types, tokens and proportions

- ◆ Proportions and relative sample frequencies are defined formally in terms of types & tokens
- ◆ Relative frequency of type  $v$  in sample  $\{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$   
= proportion of tokens  $t_i$  that belong to this type

$$p = \frac{f(v)}{n}$$

frequency of type  
sample size

- ◆ Compare relative sample frequency  $p$  against (hypothesised) population proportion  $\pi$

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## The library metaphor

- ◆ Random sampling in the library metaphor
  - in order to take a sample of sentences:
  - walk to a random shelf ...
    - ... pick a random book ...
    - ... open a random page ...
    - ... and choose a random sentence from the page
  - this gives us 1 item for our sample
  - repeat  $n$  times for **sample size  $n$**

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## Types, tokens and proportions

- ◆ Example: word frequencies
  - word type = dictionary entry (distinct word)
  - word token = instance of a word in library texts
- ◆ Example: passive VPs
  - relevant VP types = **active** or **passive** (→ abstraction)
  - VP token = instance of VP in library texts
- ◆ Example: verb subcategorisation
  - relevant types = **itr.**, **tr.**, **ditr.**, **PP-comp.**, **X-comp**, ...
  - verb token = occurrence of selected verb in text

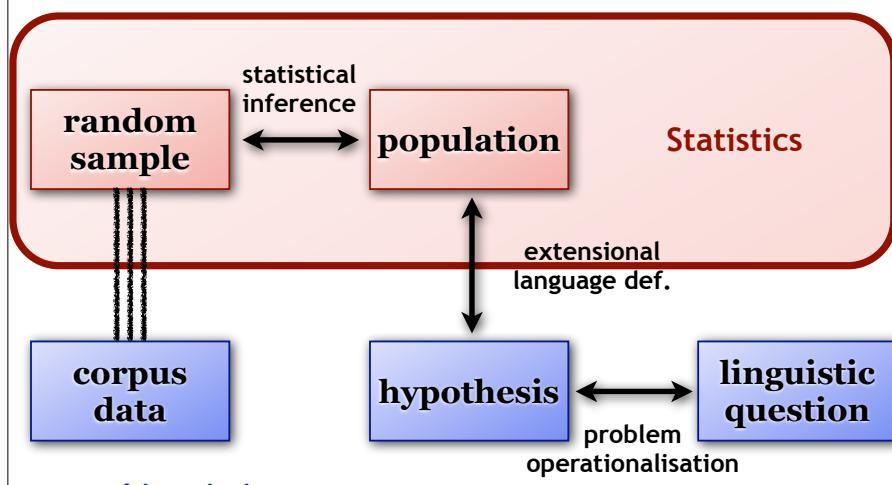
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## Inference from a sample

- ◆ Principle of inferential statistics
  - if a sample is picked at random, proportions should be roughly the same in sample and population
- ◆ Take a sample of 100 sentences
  - observe 19 passives →  $p = 19\% = .19$
  - style guide → population proportion  $\pi = 15\%$
  - $p > \pi$  → reject claim of style guide?
- ◆ Take another sample, just to be sure
  - observe 13 passives →  $p = 13\% = .13$
  - $p < \pi$  → claim of style guide confirmed?

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## Reminder: The role of statistics



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## Sampling variation

- ◆ Random choice of sample ensures proportions are the same on average in sample & population
- ◆ But it also means that for every sample we will get a different value because of chance effects  
→ **sampling variation**
  - **problem:** erroneous rejection of style guide's claim results in publication of a false result
- ◆ The main purpose of statistical methods is to estimate & correct for sampling variation
  - that's all there is to inferential statistics, really



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## The null hypothesis

- ◆ Our “goal” is to refute the style guide's claim, which we call the **null hypothesis  $H_0$**

$$H_0 : \pi = .15$$

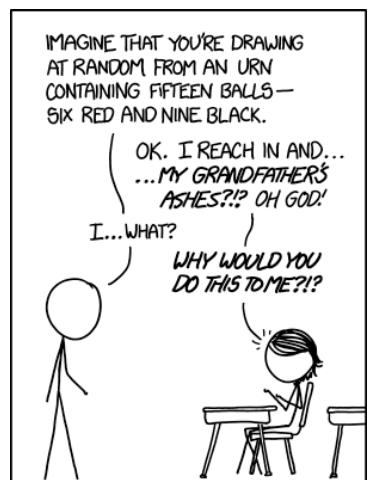
- we also refer to  $\pi_0 = .15$  as the **null proportion**
- ◆ Erroneous rejection of  $H_0$  is problematic
  - leads to embarrassing publication of false result
  - known as a **type I error** in statistics
- ◆ Need to control risk of a type I error

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## Estimating sampling variation

- ◆ Assume that style guide's claim  $H_0$  is correct
  - i.e. rejection of  $H_0$  is always a type I error
- ◆ Many corpus linguists set out to test  $H_0$ 
  - each one draws a random sample of size  $n = 100$
  - how many of the samples have the expected  $k = 15$  passives, how many have  $k = 19$ , etc.?
  - if we are willing to reject  $H_0$  for  $k = 19$  passives in a sample, all corpus linguists with such a sample will publish a false result
  - risk of type I error = percentage of such cases

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<http://xkcd.com/374/>

Comic relief

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## Estimating sampling variation

- ◆ We don't need an infinite number of monkeys (or corpus linguists) to answer these questions
  - randomly picking sentences from our metaphorical library is like drawing balls from an infinite urn
  - red ball = passive sent. / white ball = active sent.
  - $H_0$ : assume proportion of red balls in urn is 15%
- ◆ This leads to a **binomial distribution**

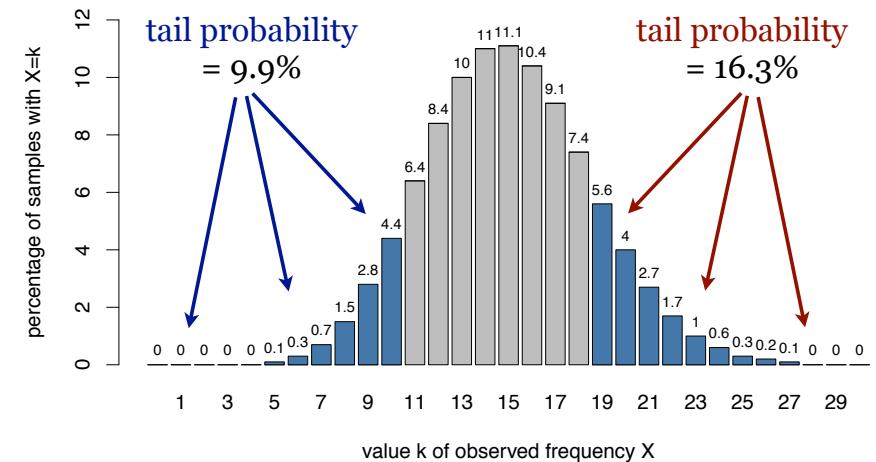
$$\Pr(k) = \binom{n}{k} (\pi_0)^k (1 - \pi_0)^{n-k}$$

percentage of samples = probability

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## Binomial sampling distribution

→ risk of false rejection = **p-value** = 26.2%



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# Statistical hypothesis testing

## ◆ Statistical **hypothesis tests**

- define a **rejection criterion** for refuting  $H_0$
- control the risk of false rejection (**type I error**) to a “socially acceptable level” (**significance level  $\alpha$** )
- **p-value** = risk of type I error given observation, interpreted as amount of evidence against  $H_0$

## ◆ Two-sided vs. one-sided tests

- in general, two-sided tests are recommended (safer)
- one-sided test is plausible in our example

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# Hypothesis tests in practice

## SIGIL: Corpus Frequency Test Wizard

This site provides some online utilities for the project **Statistical Inference: A Gentle Introduction for Linguists (SIGIL)** by [Marco Baroni](#) and [Stefan Evert](#). The main SIGIL homepage can be found at [purl.org/stefan.evert/SIGIL](http://purl.org/stefan.evert/SIGIL).

### One sample: frequency estimate (confidence interval)

Frequency count	Sample size
19	100

extrapolate to  items

95% confidence interval  
in automatic format  
with 4 significant digits

### Two samples: frequency comparison

Frequency count	Sample size
Sample 1: 19	100
Sample 2: 25	200

- <http://sigil.collocations.de/wizard.html>
- <http://corpora.lancs.ac.uk/sigtest/>
- <http://vassarstats.net/>
- SPSS, SAS, Excel, ...
- We want to do it in 

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# Binomial hypothesis test in R

## ◆ Relevant R function: **binom.test()**

## ◆ We need to specify

- **observed data:** 19 passives out of 100 sentences
- **null hypothesis:**  $H_0: \pi = 15\%$

## ◆ Using the **binom.test()** function:

```
> binom.test(19, 100, p=.15) # two-sided
> binom.test(19, 100, p=.15, # one-sided
              alternative="greater")
```

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# Binomial hypothesis test in R

```
> binom.test(19, 100, p=.15)
```

Exact binomial test

data: 19 and 100

number of successes = 19, number of trials = 100, **p-value = 0.2623**

alternative hypothesis: true probability of success is not equal to 0.15

95 percent confidence interval:  
0.1184432 0.2806980

sample estimates:  
probability of success  
0.19

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## Rejection criterion & significance level

```
> binom.test(19, 100, p=.15)$p.value
[1] 0.2622728


$p > .05$  n.s.


```
> binom.test(23, 100, p=.15)$p.value
[1] 0.03430725


$p < .05 = \alpha$  *


```
> binom.test(25, 100, p=.15)$p.value
[1] 0.007633061


$p < .01 = \alpha$  **


```
> binom.test(29, 100, p=.15)$p.value
[1] 0.0003529264


$p < .001 = \alpha$  ***


```


```


```


```

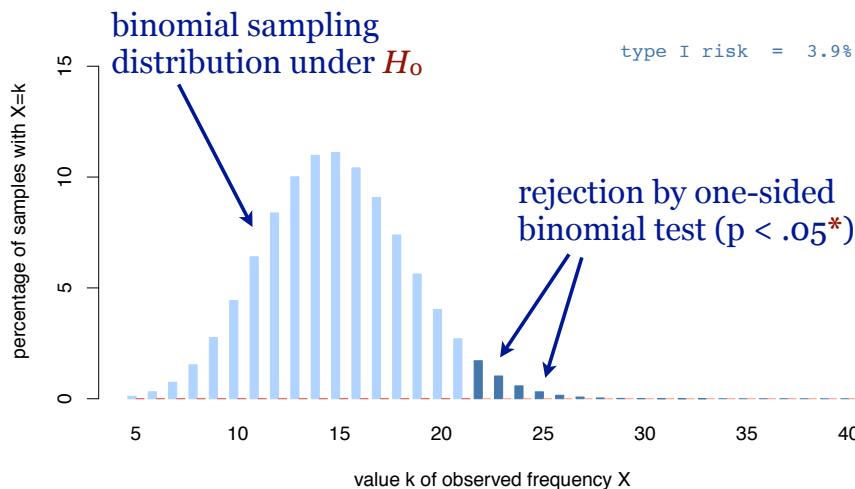
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## Type II errors

- ◆ Rejection criterion controls risk of type I error
  - only for situation in which  $H_0$  is true
- ◆ Type II error = failure to reject incorrect  $H_0$ 
  - for situation in which  $H_0$  is not true
    - rejection correct, non-rejection is an error
- ◆ What is the risk of a type II error?
  - depends on unknown true population proportion  $\pi$
  - intuitively, risk of type II error will be low if the difference  $\delta = \pi - \pi_0$  (the **effect size**) is large enough

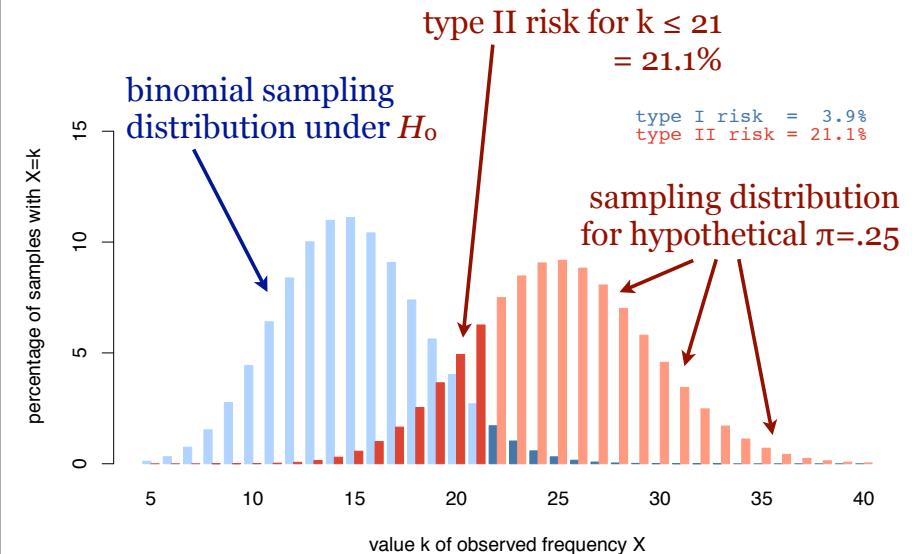
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## Type II errors



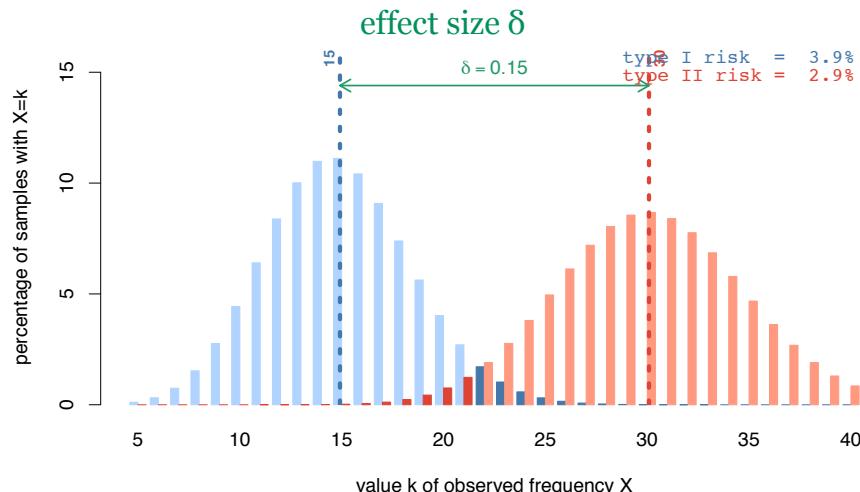
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## Type II errors



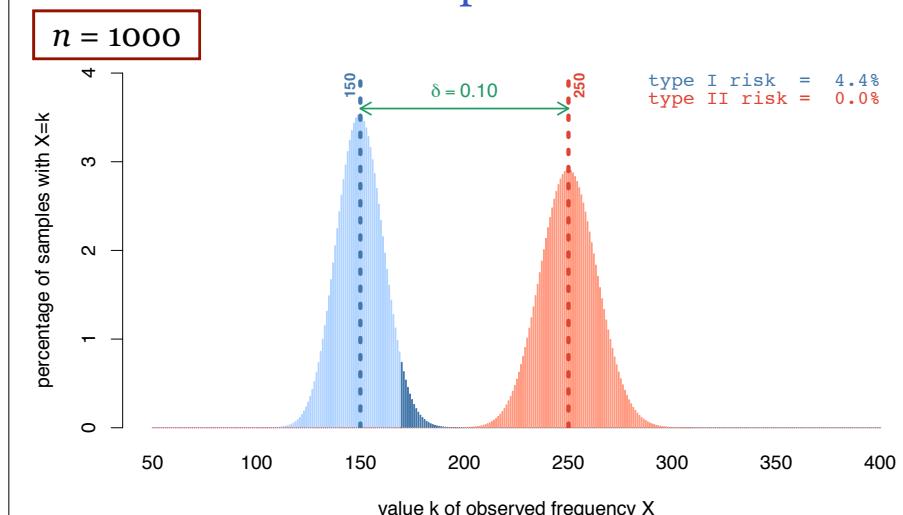
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## Type II errors & effect size



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## Type II errors & sample size



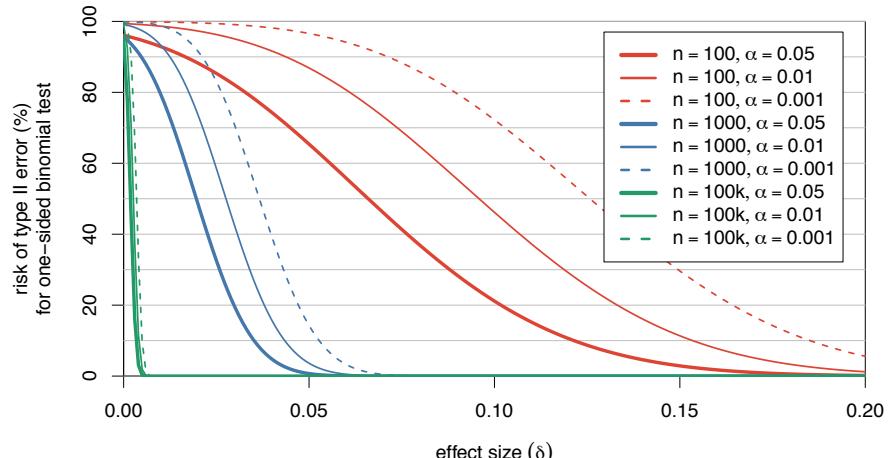
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## Power

- ◆ Type II error = failure to reject incorrect  $H_0$ 
  - the larger the difference between  $H_0$  and the true population proportion, the more likely it is that  $H_0$  can be rejected based on a given sample
  - a **powerful** test has a low **type II error**
  - power analysis explores the relationship between effect size and risk of type II error
- ◆ Key insight: larger sample = more power
  - relative sampling variation becomes smaller
  - power also depends on significance level

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## Power analysis for binomial test



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## Power analysis for binomial test

- ◆ Key factors determining the power of a test
  - **sample size** → more evidence = greater power
  - **significance level** → trade-off btw. type I / II errors
- ◆ Influence of hypothesis test procedure
  - one-sided test more powerful than two-sided test
  - parametric tests more powerful than non-parametric
  - statisticians look for “uniformly most powerful” test
- ◆ Tests can become too powerful!
  - reject  $H_0$  for 15.1% passives with  $n = 1,000,000$

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## Parametric vs. non-parametric

- ◆ People often talk about parametric and non-parametric tests without precise definition
- ◆ Parametric tests make stronger assumptions
  - not just normality assuming (= Gaussian distribution)
  - binomial test: strong random sampling assumption  
→ might be considered a parametric test in this sense!
- ◆ Parametric tests are usually more powerful
  - strong assumptions allow less conservative estimate of sampling variation → less evidence needed against  $H_0$

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## Trade-offs in statistics

- ◆ Inferential statistics is a trade-off between type I errors and type II errors
  - i.e. between **significance** and **power**
- ◆ Significance level
  - determines trade-off point
  - low significance level  $\alpha$  → low type I risk, but low power
- ◆ Conservative tests
  - put more weight on avoiding type I errors → weaker
  - most non-parametric methods are conservative

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## Confidence interval

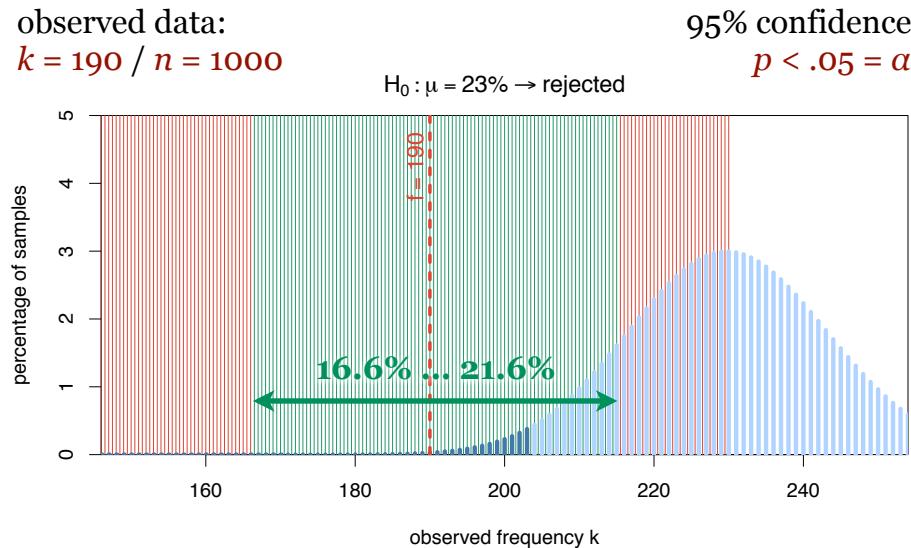
- ◆ We now know how to test a null hypothesis  $H_0$ , rejecting it only if there is sufficient evidence
- ◆ But what if we do not have an obvious null hypothesis to start with?
  - this is typically the case in (computational) linguistics
- ◆ We can estimate the true population proportion from the sample data (relative frequency)
  - sampling variation → range of plausible values
  - such a **confidence interval** can be constructed by inverting hypothesis tests (e.g. binomial test)

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## Confidence interval

observed data:

$$k = 190 / n = 1000$$



I'm cheating here a tiny little bit (not always an interval)

## Confidence intervals

- ◆ Confidence interval = range of plausible values for true population proportion
  - $H_0$  rejected by test iff  $\pi_0$  is outside confidence interval
- ◆ Size of confidence interval depends on power of the test (i.e. sample size and significance level)

	$n = 100$ $k = 19$	$n = 1,000$ $k = 190$	$n = 10,000$ $k = 1,900$
$\alpha = .05$	11.8% ... 28.1%	16.6% ... 21.6%	18.2% ... 19.8%
$\alpha = .01$	10.1% ... 31.0%	15.9% ... 22.4%	18.0% ... 20.0%
$\alpha = .001$	8.3% ... 34.5%	15.1% ... 23.4%	17.7% ... 20.3%

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## Confidence intervals in R

- ◆ Most hypothesis tests in R also compute a confidence interval (including `binom.test()`)
  - omit  $H_0$  if only interested in confidence interval
- ◆ Significance level of underlying hypothesis test is controlled by `conf.level` parameter
  - expressed as confidence, e.g. `conf.level=.95` for significance level  $\alpha = .05$ , i.e. 95% confidence
- ◆ Can also compute one-sided confidence interval
  - controlled by `alternative` parameter
  - two-sided confidence intervals strongly recommended

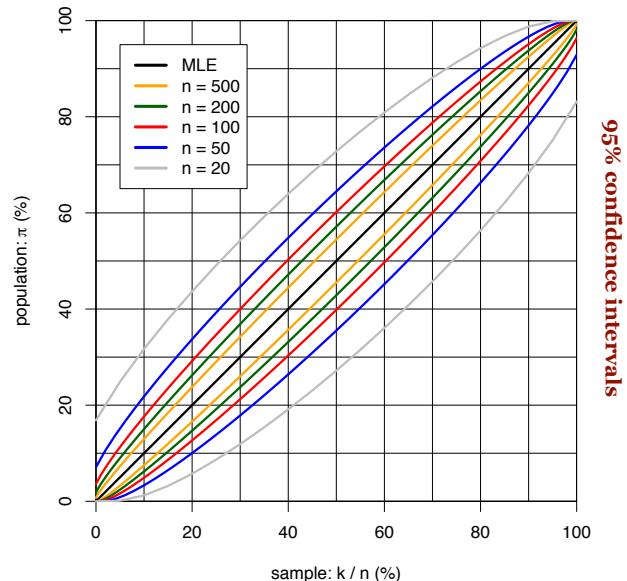
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## Confidence intervals in R

```
> binom.test(190, 1000, conf.level=.99)
Exact binomial test
data: 190 and 1000
number of successes = 190, number of trials = 1000, p-value < 2.2e-16
alternative hypothesis: true probability of success is not equal to 0.5
99 percent confidence interval:
0.1590920 0.2239133
sample estimates:
probability of success
0.19
```

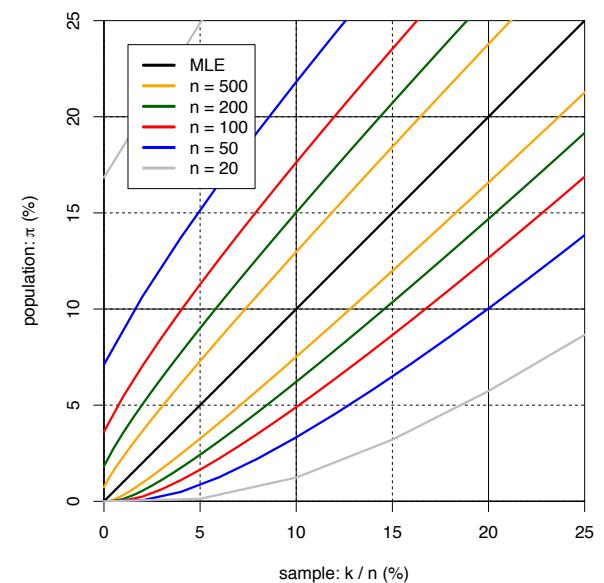
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## Choosing sample size



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## Choosing sample size



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## Using R to choose sample size

- ◆ Call `binom.test()` with hypothetical values
- ◆ Plots on previous slides also created with R
  - requires calculation of large number of hypothetical confidence intervals
  - `binom.test()` is both inconvenient and inefficient
- ◆ The `corpora` package has a vectorised function
  - > `library(corpora)`
  - > `prop.cint(190, 1000, conf.level=.99)`
  - > `?prop.cint # "conf. intervals for proportions"`

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## Frequency comparison

- ◆ Many linguistic research questions can be operationalised as a frequency comparison
  - Are split infinitives more frequent in AmE than BrE?
  - Are there more definite articles in texts written by Chinese learners of English than native speakers?
  - Does `meow` occur more often in the vicinity of `cat` than elsewhere in the text?
  - Do speakers prefer `I couldn't agree more` over alternative realisations such as `I agree completely`?
- ◆ Compare observed frequencies in two samples

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## Frequency comparison

- ◆ Null hypothesis for frequency comparison

$$H_0 : \pi_1 = \pi_2$$

- no assumptions about the precise value  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi$

- ◆ Observed data

- target count  $k_i$  and sample size  $n_i$  for each sample  $i$
- e.g.  $k_1 = 19 / n_1 = 100$  passives vs.  $k_2 = 25 / n_2 = 200$

- ◆ Effect size: difference of proportions

- effect size  $\delta = \pi_1 - \pi_2$  (and thus  $H_0: \delta = 0$ )

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## Frequency comparison in R

- ◆ Frequency comparison test: `prop.test()`

- observed data: counts  $k_i$  and sample sizes  $n_i$
- also computes confidence interval for effect size

- ◆ E.g. for 19 passives out of 100 / 25 out of 200

- parameters `conf.level` and `alternative` can be used in the familiar way

```
> prop.test(c(19, 25), c(100, 200))
```

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## Frequency comparison in R

```
> prop.test(c(19, 25), c(100, 200))
  2-sample test for equality of proportions with
  continuity correction
data: c(19, 25) out of c(100, 200)
X-squared = 1.7611, df = 1, p-value = 0.1845
alternative hypothesis: two.sided
95 percent confidence interval:
 -0.03201426  0.16201426
sample estimates:
prop 1 prop 2
 0.190   0.125
```

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## Contingency tables

	sample 1		sample 2		
			19	25	
	passive	$k_1$	$k_2$		
active		$n_1 - k_1$	$n_2 - k_2$	81	175
		$n_1$	$n_2$	100	200

- ◆ Data can also be given as a **contingency table**

- e.g.  $k_1 = 19 / n_1 = 100$  passives vs.  $k_2 = 25 / n_2 = 200$
- represents a cross-classification of  $n = 300$  items
- generalization to larger tables possible

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## Tests for contingency tables

- ◆ Fisher's exact test = generalization of binomial test to contingency tables
  - computationally expensive, mostly for small samples
- ◆ Pearson's chi-squared test = asymptotic test based on test statistic  $X^2$ 
  - larger value of  $X^2 \rightarrow$  less likely under  $H_0$
  - $X^2$  can be translated into corresponding p-value
  - suitable for large samples and small balanced samples
- ◆ Likelihood-ratio test based on statistic  $G^2$ 
  - popular in collocation and keyword identification
  - suitable for highly skewed data

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## Tests for contingency tables

- ◆ Can easily carry out chi-squared (`chisq.test`) and Fisher's exact test (`fisher.test`) in R
  - likelihood ratio test not included in R standard library
- ◆ Table for 19 / 100 vs. 25 / 200

```
> ct <- cbind(c(19, 81),  
               c(25, 175))  
> chisq.test(ct)  
> fisher.test(ct)
```

19	25
81	175

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## Significance vs. relevance

- ◆ Much focus on significant p-value, but ...
  - large differences may be non-significant if sample size is too small (e.g.  $10/80 = 12.5\%$  vs.  $20/80 = 25\%$ )
  - increase sample size for more powerful/sensitive test
  - very large samples lead to highly significant p-values for minimal and irrelevant differences (e.g. 1M tokens with  $150,000 = 15\%$  vs.  $151,000 = 15.1\%$  occurrences)
- ◆ It is important to assess both **significance** and **relevance** (= effect size) of frequency data!
  - confidence intervals combine both aspects

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ Simple effect size measure:  
**difference of proportions**

$$\delta = \pi_1 - \pi_2$$

- ◆  $H_0: \delta = 0$

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

- ◆ Issues

- depends on scale of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$
- small effects for lexical freq's

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ Effect size measure: (log) **relative risk**

$$r = \frac{\pi_1}{\pi_2}$$

- ◆  $H_0: r = 1$

- ◆ Issues

- can be inflated for small  $\pi_2$
- mathematically inconvenient

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ Effect size measure:  **$\phi$  coefficient / Cramér V**

$$\phi = \sqrt{\frac{X^2}{n}}$$

- ◆  $H_0:$  ???

$$n = n_1 + n_2$$

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ Effect size measure: (log) **odds ratio**

$$\theta = \frac{\frac{\pi_1}{1-\pi_1}}{\frac{\pi_2}{1-\pi_2}} = \frac{\pi_1(1-\pi_2)}{\pi_2(1-\pi_1)}$$

- ◆  $H_0: \theta = 1$

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ Effect size measure:  **$\phi$  coefficient / Cramér V**

$$\phi = \frac{\pi_1(1-\pi_2) - \pi_2(1-\pi_1)}{\sqrt{(r_1\pi_1 + r_2\pi_2)(1-r_1\pi_1 - r_2\pi_2)/r_1r_2}}$$

- ◆  $H_0: \phi = 0$

$$n = n_1 + n_2$$

$$r_1 = n_1/n$$

- ◆ Issues

$$r_2 = n_2/n$$

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

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## Effect size in contingency tables

- ◆ We can estimate effect sizes by inserting sample values  $k_i/n_i$
- ◆ But such point estimates are meaningless!
- ◆ Confidence intervals available only for some effect measures
  - approximate interval for  $\delta$  from proportions test
  - exact interval for odds ratio  $\theta$  from Fisher's test
  - $\varphi$  computed from chi-square statistic is still a point estimate!

$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$
$1-\pi_1$	$1-\pi_2$

population equivalent of a **contingency table**, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

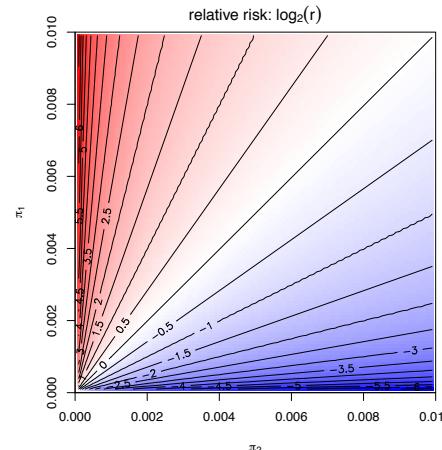
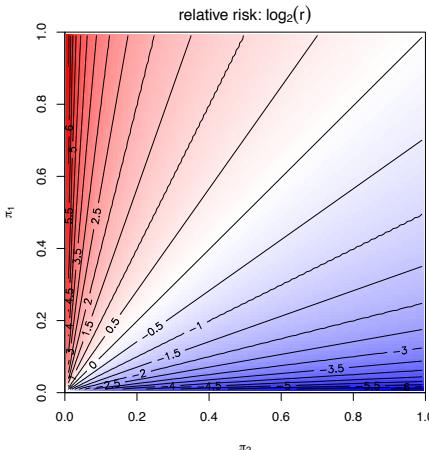
$$\hat{\pi}_1 = \frac{k_1}{n_1}$$

$$\hat{\pi}_2 = \frac{k_2}{n_2}$$

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## Visualizing effect size measures

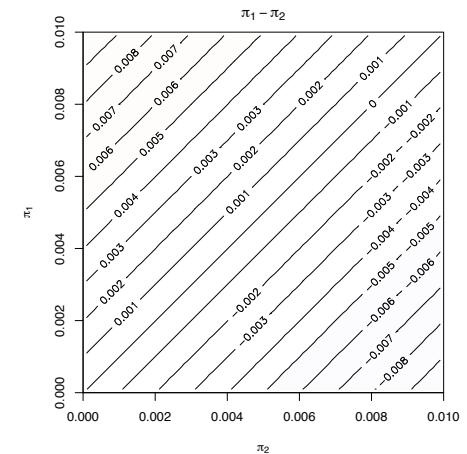
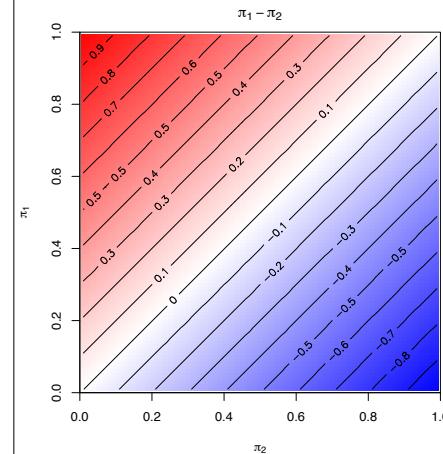
### (log) relative risk



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## Visualizing effect size measures

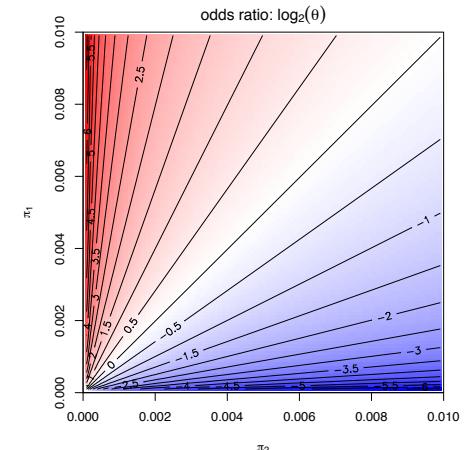
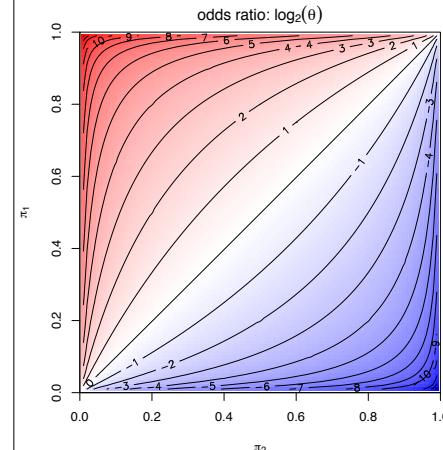
### difference of proportions



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## Visualizing effect size measures

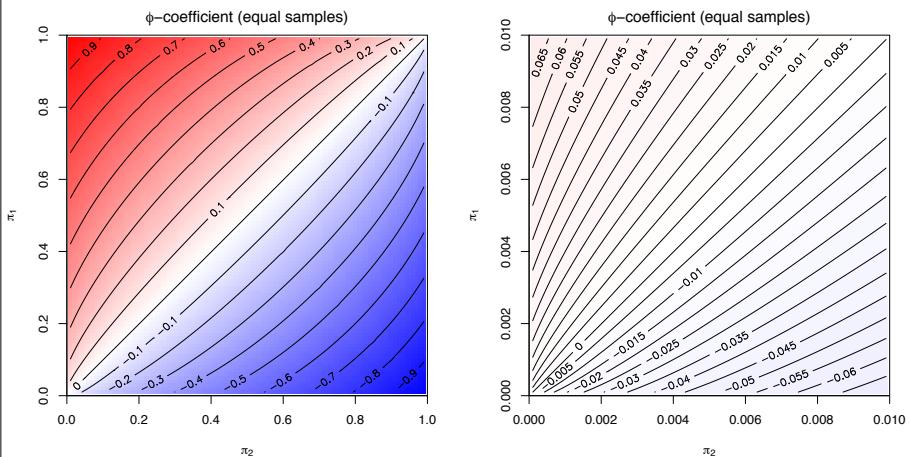
### (log) odds ratio



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## Visualizing effect size measures

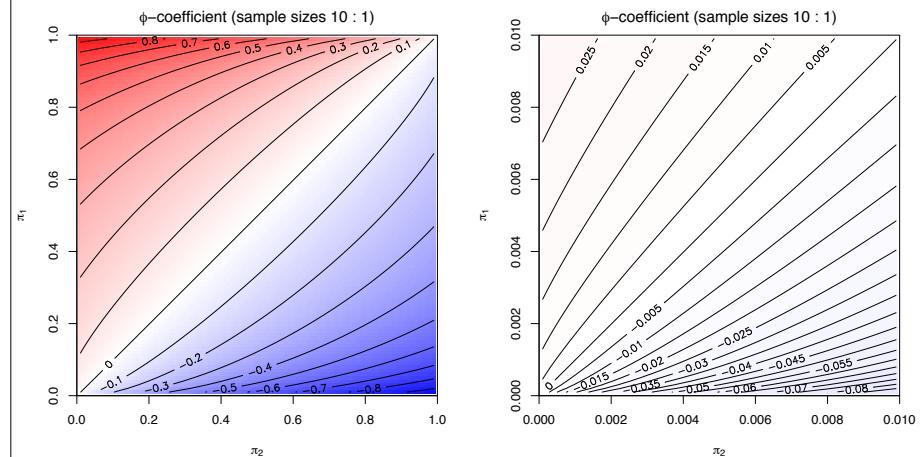
### $\phi$ coefficient (1 : 1)



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## Visualizing effect size measures

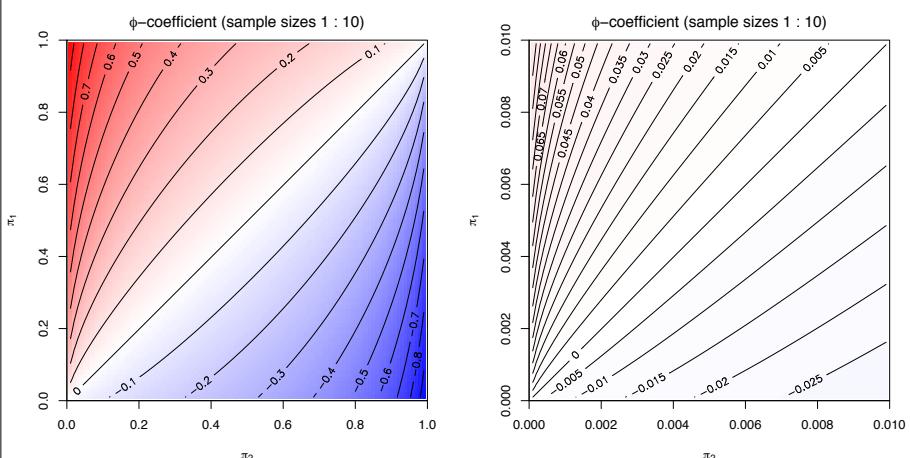
### $\phi$ coefficient (10 : 1)



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## Visualizing effect size measures

### $\phi$ coefficient (1 : 10)



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## A case study: passives

- ◆ As a case study, we will compare the frequency of passives in Brown (AmE) and LOB (BrE)
  - pooled data
  - separately for each genre category
  
- ◆ Data files provided in CSV format
  - **passives.brown.csv** & **passives.lob.csv**
  - cat = genre category, passive = number of passives, n\_w = number of word, n\_s = number of sentences, name = description of genre category

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## Preparing the data

```
> Brown <- read.csv("passives.brown.csv")
> LOB <- read.csv("passives.lob.csv")

> library(SIGIL) # or use versions in SIGIL package
> Brown <- BrownPassives
> LOB <- LOBPassives
# now take a look at the two tables: what info do they provide?

# pooled data for entire corpus = column sums (col. 2 ... 4)
> Brown.all <- colSums(Brown[, 2:4])
> LOB.all <- colSums(LOB[, 2:4])
```

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## Automation: user functions

```
# user function do.test() executes proportions test for samples
# k1/n1 and k2/n2, and summarizes relevant results in compact form
> do.test <- function (k1, n1, k2, n2) {
  # res contains results of proportions test (list = data structure)
  res <- prop.test(c(k1, k2), c(n1, n2))
  # data frames are a nice way to display summary tables
  fmt <- data.frame(p=res$p.value,
    lower=res$conf.int[1], upper=res$conf.int[2])
  fmt # return value of function = last expression
}
> do.test(10123, 49576, 10934, 49742) # pooled data
> do.test(146, 975, 134, 947) # humour genre
```

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## Frequency tests for pooled data

```
# proportions test reports p-value is based on chi-squared test
# and approximate confidence interval for effect size δ
> prop.test(c(10123, 10934), c(49576, 49742))

> ct <- cbind(c(10123, 49576-10123), # Brown
  c(10934, 49742-10934)) # LOB
> ct # contingency table for chi-squared / Fisher
> fisher.test(ct) # exact confidence interval for odds ratio θ

# we could in principle do the same for all 15 genres ...
```

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## A nicer user function

```
# nicer version of user function with genre category labels
> do.test <- function (k1, n1, k2, n2, cat="") {
  res <- prop.test(c(k1, k2), c(n1, n2))
  data.frame(
    p=res$p.value,
    lower=100*res$conf.int[1], # scaled to % points
    upper=100*res$conf.int[2],
    row.names=cat # add genre as row label
  ) # return data frame directly without local variable fmt
}

# extract relevant information directly from data frames
> do.test(Brown$passive[15], Brown$n_s[15],
  LOB$passive[15], LOB$n_s[15],
  cat=Brown$name[15])
```

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## Ad-hoc functions & loops

```
# ad-hoc convenience function to reduce typing/editing
# (works only if global Brown/LOB variables are set correctly!)
quick.test <- function (i) {
  do.test(k1=Brown$passive[i], n1=Brown$n_s[i],
          k2=LOB$passive[i], n2=LOB$n_s[i],
          cat=Brown$name[i])
}
quick.test(15) # easy to repeat for different genres now
quick.test(9)

# loop over all 15 categories (more general: 1:nrow(Brown))
for (i in 1:15) {
  print( quick.test(i) )
}
```

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## R wizardry: working with lists

```
# our code only works if rows of Brown/LOB are in the same order!
> all(Brown$cat == LOB$cat)
# it would be nice to collect all these results in a single overview table
# for this, we need a little bit of R wizardry ...
# apply function quick.test() to each number 1, ..., 15
res.list <- lapply(1:15, quick.test)
# pass res.list as individual arguments to rbind()
# (think of this as an idiom you just have to remember ...)
res <- do.call(rbind, res.list)
res # data frame with one row for each genre
round(res, 3) # rounded values are easier to read
```

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## It's your turn now ...

### ◆ Questions:

- Which differences are significant?
- Are the effect sizes linguistically relevant?

### ◆ A different approach:

- You can construct a list of contingency tables with the `cont.table()` function from the `corpora` package
- Apply `fisher.test()` or `chisq.test()` directly to each table in the list using the `lapply()` function
- Try to extract relevant information with `sapply()`

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