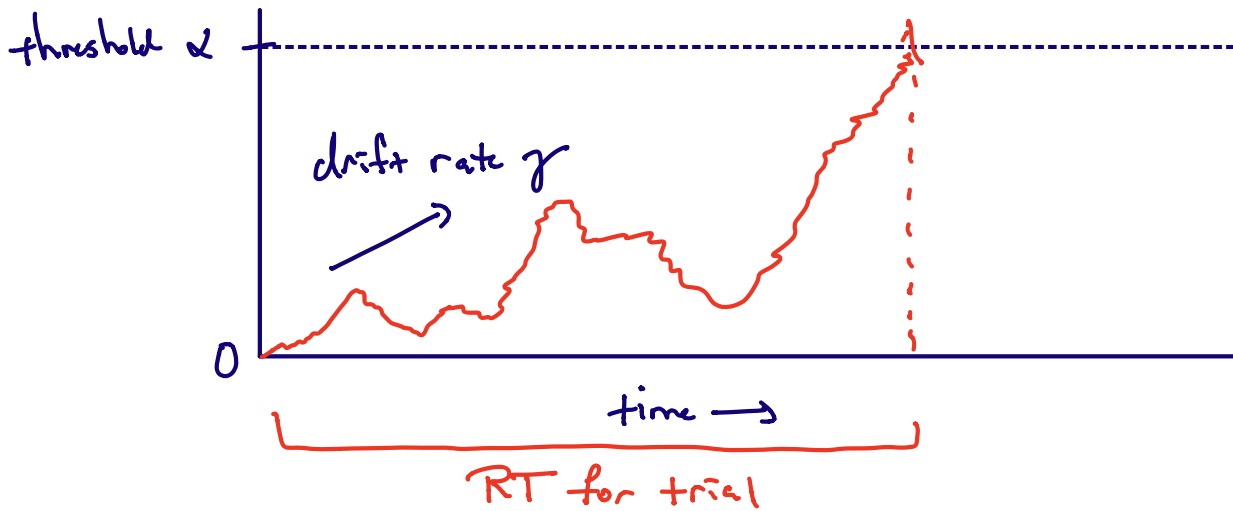


## Lecture 9 - the EZ diffusion model

Wald model: sequential sampling model w/ one boundary



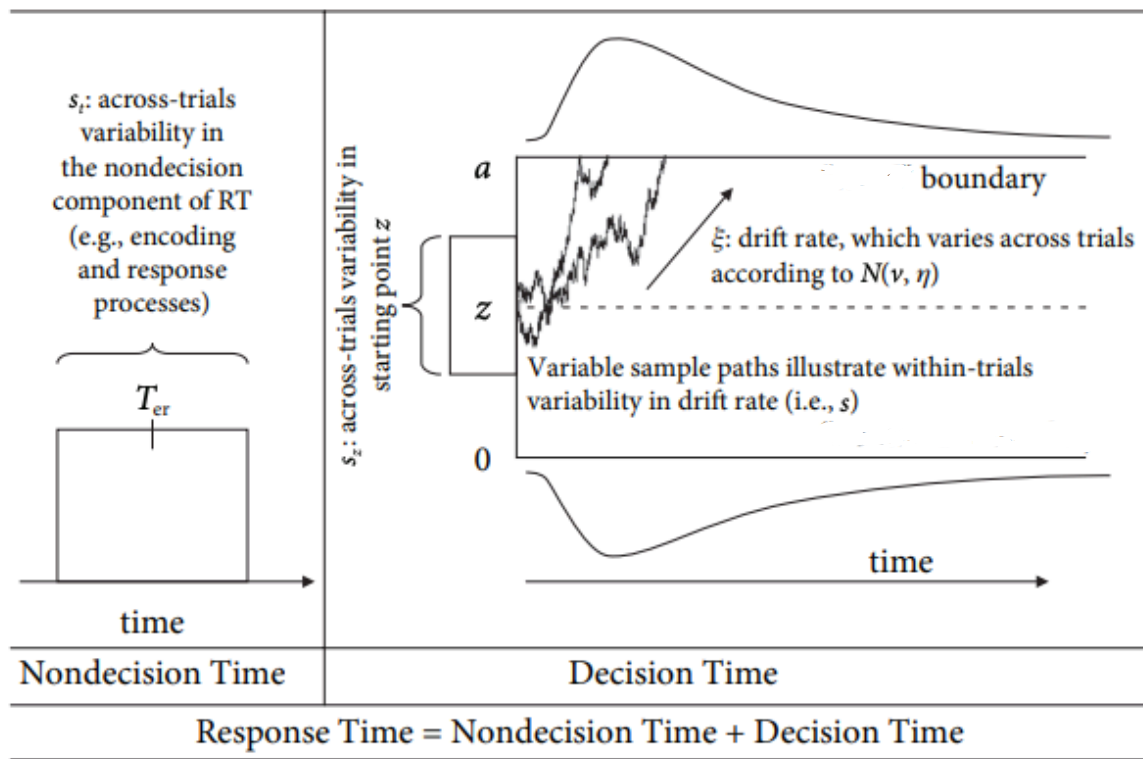
Disadvantages:

1. only one boundary - doesn't account for errors
2. accumulator starts at 0 - doesn't account for nondecision processes (i.e., perception & motor initiation)

↳ better approach? -

Diffusion model (R. Ratcliff)

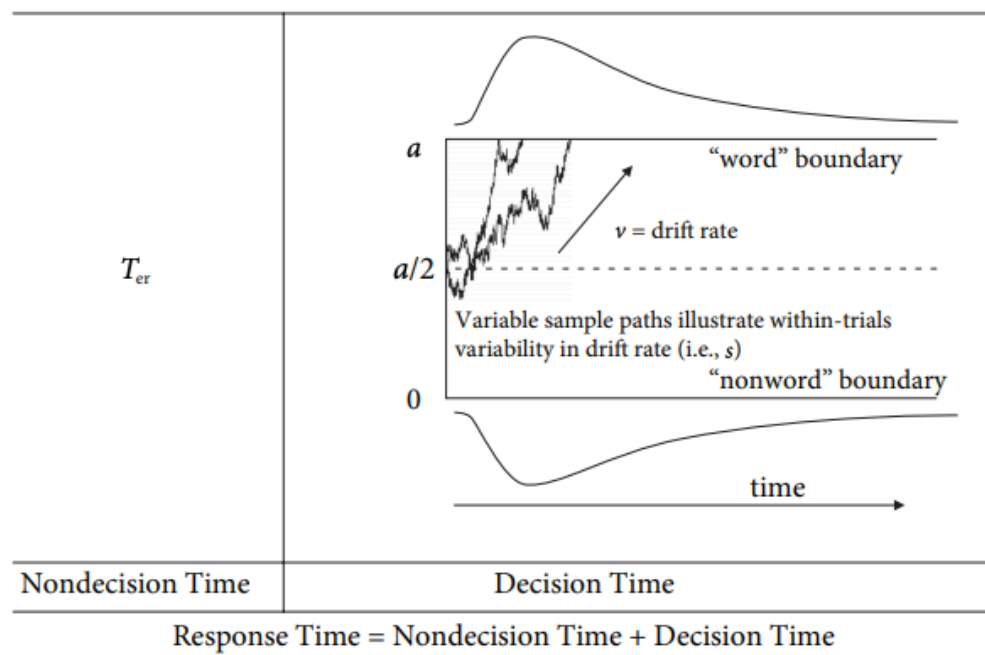
# Diffusion model:



Seven parameters!

1. mean drift rate ( $\nu$ )
2. across-trial variability in drift rate ( $\eta$ )
3. Boundary separation ( $a$ )
4. Mean starting point ( $z$ )
5. Across-trial range in starting point ( $s_z$ )
6. mean of nondecision component ( $T_{er}$ )
7. across-trial range in nondecision time ( $s_t$ )

In 2007, Wagenmakers, van der Mas, & Grasman proposed some simplifying assumptions:



~~Three~~  
~~Seven~~ parameters!

1. mean drift rate ( $v$ )
- ~~2. across-trial variability in drift rate ( $n$ )~~
3. Boundary separation ( $a$ )
- ~~4. Mean starting point ( $z$ )~~
- ~~5. Across-trial range in starting point ( $s_z$ )~~
6. mean of nondecision component ( $T_{er}$ )
- ~~7. across-trial range in nondecision time ( $s_z$ )~~

As a result, this "EZ"-diffusion model can be estimated from only three pieces of information:

1. mean of RTs
2. variance of RTs
3. proportion of correct trials.

Analytic steps:

1. calculate drift rate

$$v = \text{sign}\left(P_c - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot s \cdot \left[ \frac{\text{logit}(P_c) \left[ P_c^2 \text{logit}(P_c) - P_c \text{logit}(P_c) + P_c - \frac{1}{2} \right]}{\text{Var}(RT)} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

↳ where  $s = 0.1$

$$\text{and } \text{logit}(P_c) = \log\left(\frac{P_c}{1-P_c}\right)$$

"log odds"

2. then, calculate boundary separation

$$a = \frac{s^2 \logit(P_c)}{\sqrt{v}}$$

↳ convert to "threshold" by taking

$$\text{threshold} = \frac{a}{2}$$

3. calculate nondecision time as

$$T_{cr} = \text{mean}(RT) - \text{mean}(DT)$$

where

$$\text{mean}(DT) = \left( \frac{a}{2\sqrt{v}} \right) \frac{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{v}a}{s^2}\right)}{1 + \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{v}a}{s^2}\right)}$$

# Implementation in R:

```
3 # load data from Faulkenberry, Bowman, and Vick (2018)
4 # experiment on size congruity effect
5 X = read.csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com
  /tomfaulkenberry/physNumComparisonTask/master/results/data
  /subject_104.csv")
6
7 # break into congruity conditions
8 X_congruent = subset(X, congruity=="congruent")
9 X_incongruent = subset(X, congruity=="incongruent")
```

Note: Size congruity effect = which number is physically larger?

Congruent trials:

2 8

Incongruent trials

2 8

slower!

```
15 # extract summary statistics for each condition
16 mRT_congruent = mean(X_congruent$response_time)
17 mRT_incongruent = mean(X_incongruent$response_time)
18
19 varRT_congruent = var(X_congruent$response_time)
20 varRT_incongruent = var(X_incongruent$response_time)
21
22 Pc_congruent = mean(X_congruent$correct)
23 Pc_incongruent = mean(X_incongruent$correct)
24
```

Get mean,  
variance,  $s^2$ ,  
% correct for  
each condition

```

26 # fit EZ-diffusion model
27
28 # first, fit congruent trials
29 mRT = mRT_congruent
30 varRT = varRT_congruent
31 Pc = Pc_congruent
32
33 # Step 1 - calculate drift rate
34 L = log(Pc/(1-Pc)) # logit function
35 x = L*(Pc^2*L - Pc*L + Pc - .5)/varRT
36 driftRate1 = 0.1*sign(Pc-0.5)*x^(1/4)
37
38 # calculate threshold
39 a = 0.01*log(Pc/(1-Pc))/driftRate
40 threshold1 = a/2
41
42 # calculate nondecision time
43 y = -100*driftRate*a
44 MDT = a/(2*driftRate) * (1-exp(y))/(1+exp(y))
45 nondecisionTime1 = mRT - MDT

```

Once the drift rate, threshold, & NDT  
are computed, repeat for incongruent trials  
and then compare.