

# **Binomial tests**

# **Chi square tests**

# **P-values**

# **Confidence Intervals**

# **Null Hypothesis testing**

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**Practical Statistics for Experimental Biologists**  
**Lecture 2**  
**Tuesday, 28 July 2020**  
**10:00am - 12:00pm**

## **Example 1: Human Sex Ratio**

## Computing sex ratio of humans is one of the oldest applications of statistics

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year	male	female
1629	5218	4683
1630	4858	4457
1631	4422	4102
1632	4994	4590
1633	5158	4839
1634	5035	4820
1635	5106	4928
1636	4917	4605
1637	4703	4457

⋮

Arbuthnott J (1711). An Argument for Divine Providence, taken from the Constant Regularity observed in the Births of both Sexes.

sex\_ratio.pzfx — Edited

Table format: Parts of whole

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	year 1634	total	Title	Title	Title	Title	Title	Title	Title
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1	boys	5035	484382						
2	girls	4820	453841						
3	Title								
4	Title								
5	Title								
6	Title								
7	Title								
8	Title								
9	Title								
10	Title								
11	Title								
12	Title								
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18	Title								
19	Title								
20	Title								
21	Title								
22	Title								
23	Title								
24	Title								
25	Title								
26	Title								
27	Title								

Family

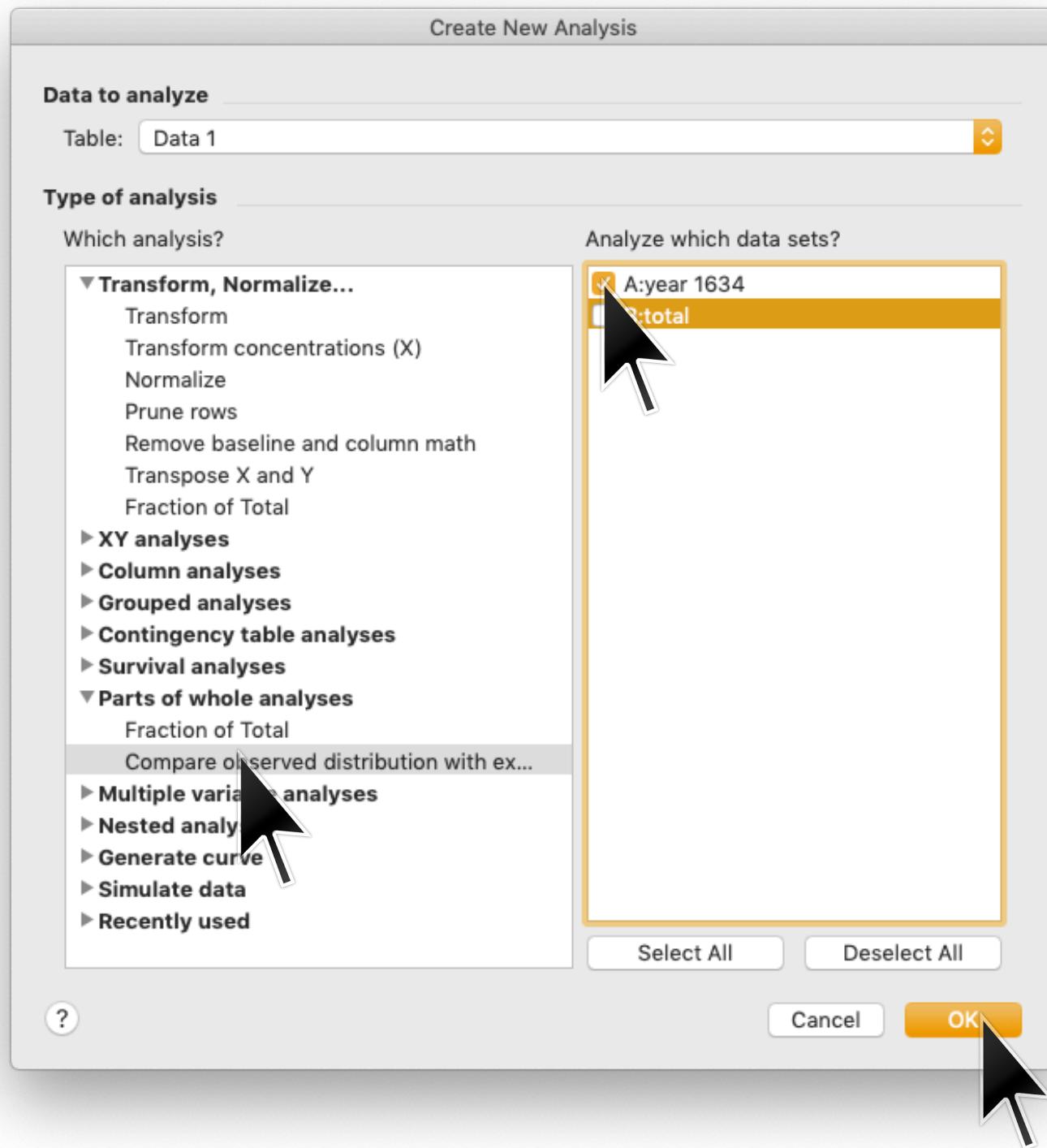
Data 1

Data 1

Row --, A: year 1634

Selected: Rows 1073741827, Columns 1

Navigation icons: back, forward, search, etc.



Parameters: Compare observed distribution with expected

This analysis expects that each value in the data table is an actual number of events or items, and is not normalized in any way.

**Data set to analyze**  
A: year 1634

**Enter expected values as**

Actual numbers of objects or events  
 Percentages

**With two rows, perform**

Gnomial test (recommended)  
 Chi-square test for goodness of fit

**Expected distribution**

Row	Outcome	Observed %	Expected %
1	boys	51.09	50
2	girls	48.91	50

**Output**

Method to calculate CI: Wilson/Brown (recommended)

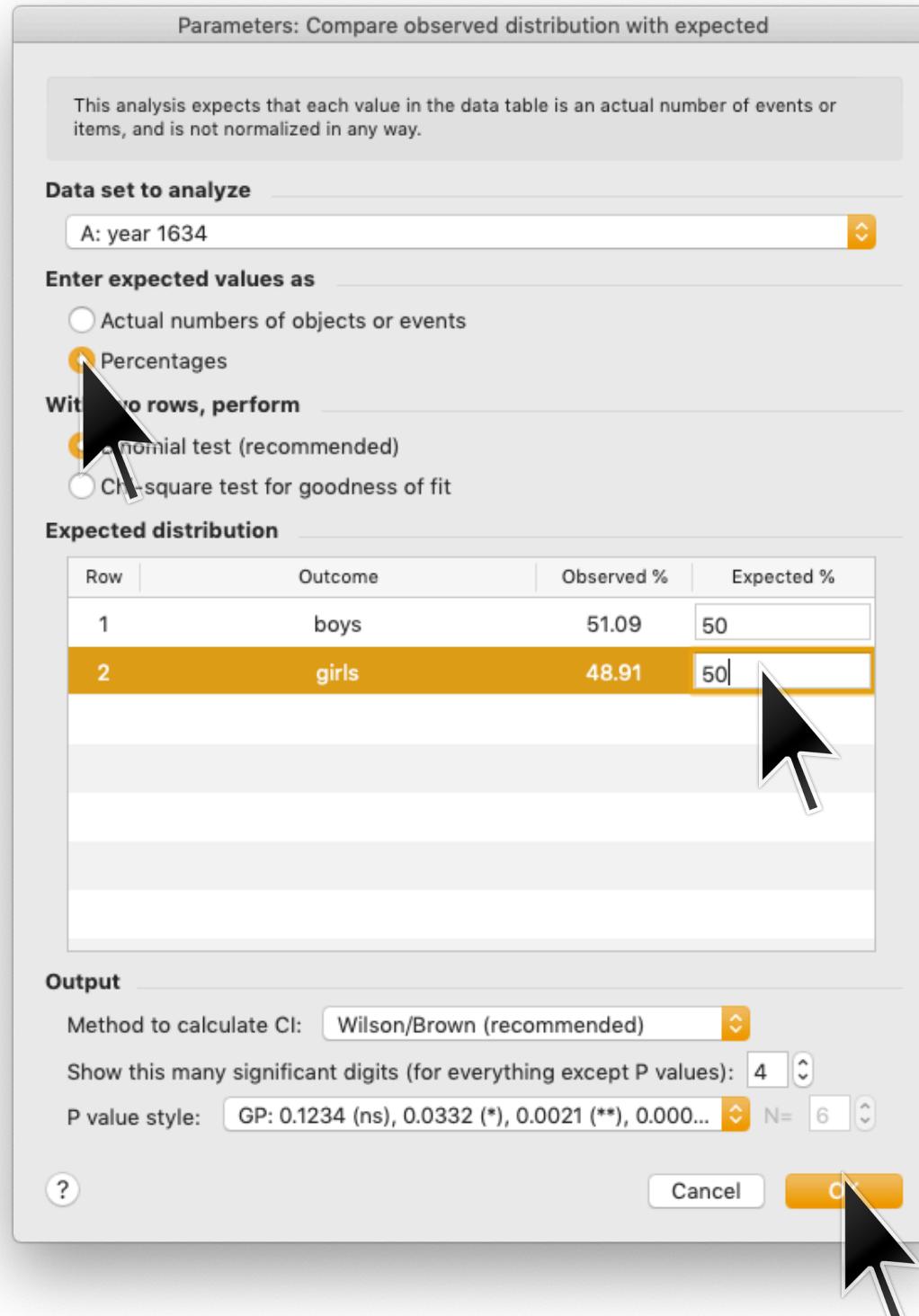
Show this many significant digits (for everything except P values): 4

P value style: GP: 0.1234 (ns), 0.0332 (\*), 0.0021 (\*\*), 0.000... N= 6

?

Cancel

OK



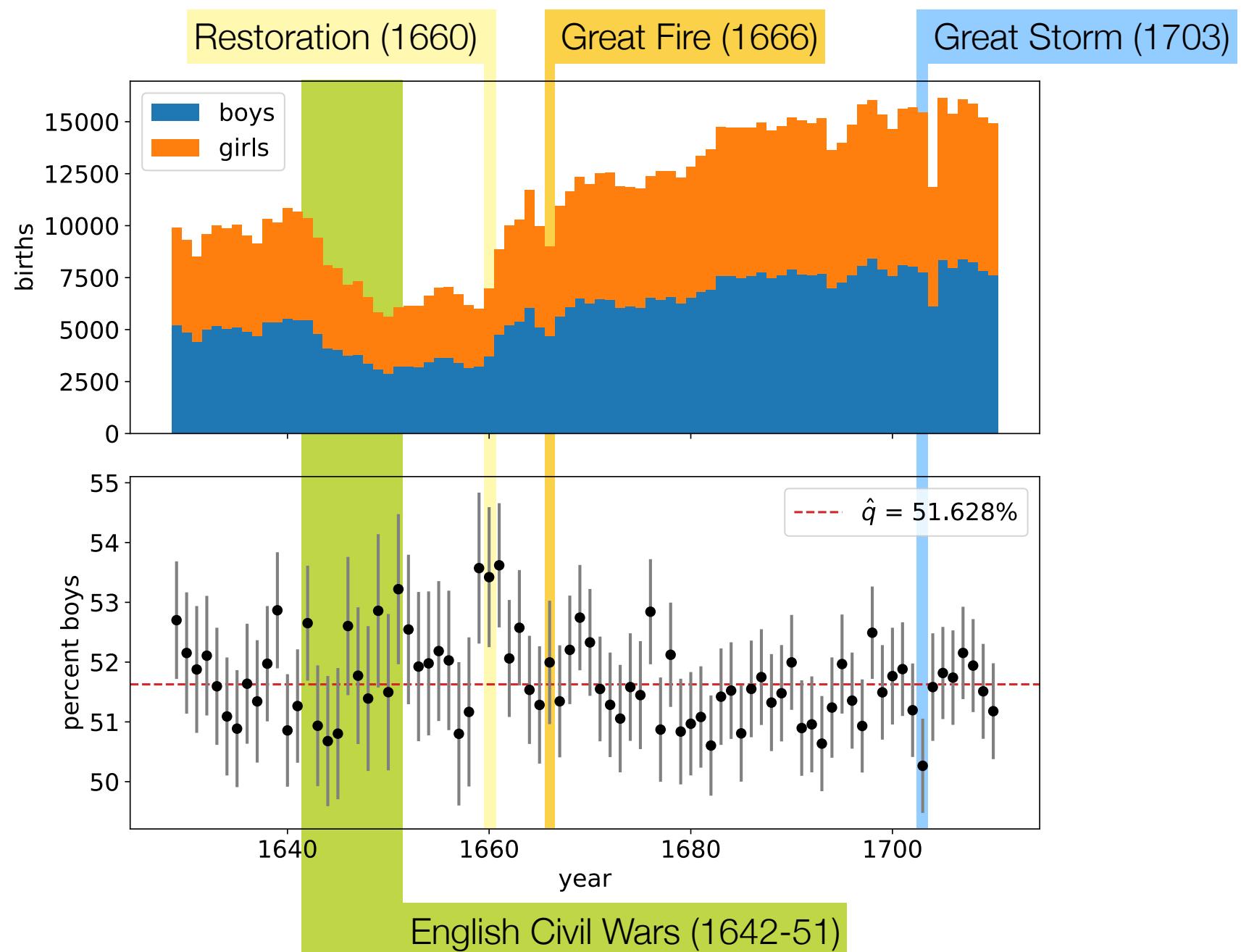
sex\_ratio.pzfx — Edited

**O vs. E**

1	Table analyzed	Data 1				
2	Column analyzed	Column A				
3						
4	<b>Binomial test</b>					
5	P (one-tailed)	0.0156				
6	P (two-tailed)	0.0311				
7	P value summary	*				
8	Is discrepancy significant (P < 0.05)?	Yes				
9						
10	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Expected #</b>	<b>Observed #</b>	<b>Expected %</b>	<b>Observed %</b>	<b>95% CI of Observed %</b>
11	boys	4928	5035	50.00	51.09	50.10 to 52.08
12	girls	4928	4820	50.00	48.91	47.92 to 49.90
13	<b>TOTAL</b>	9855	9855	100.0	100.00	
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						

Row 1, Column A

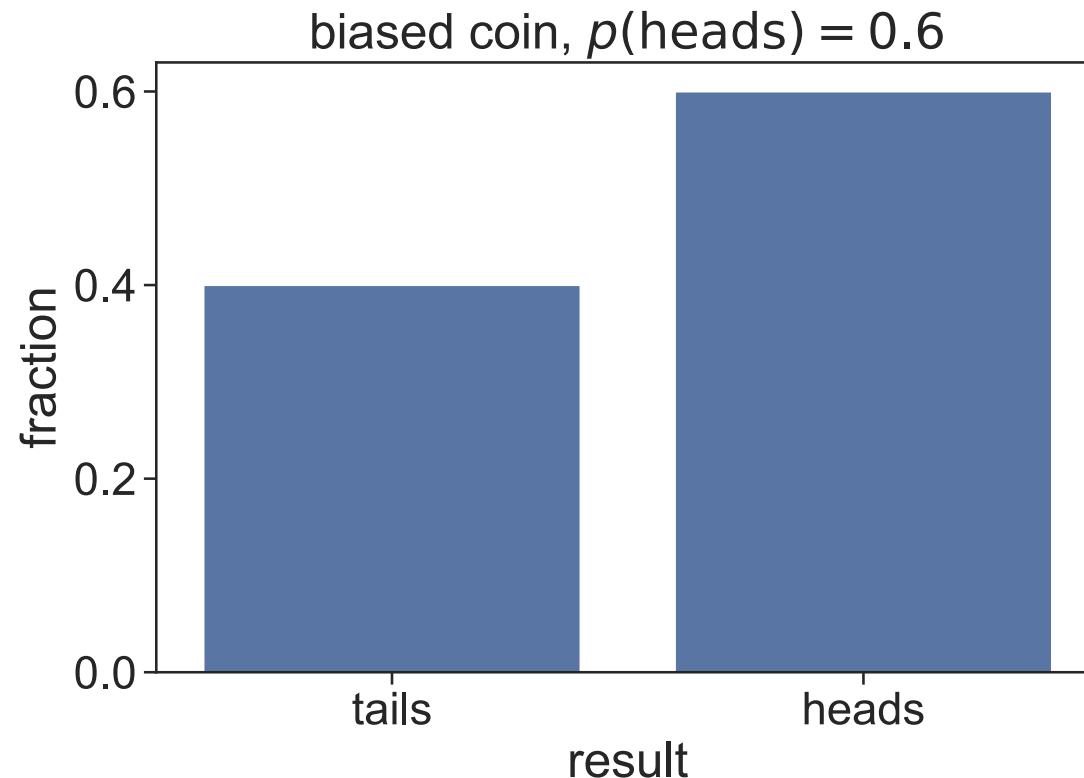
## Births in London, 1629-1710



## **Example 2: A biased coin**

Biased coins are modeled using a Bernoulli distribution, which describes probabilities for a binary variable

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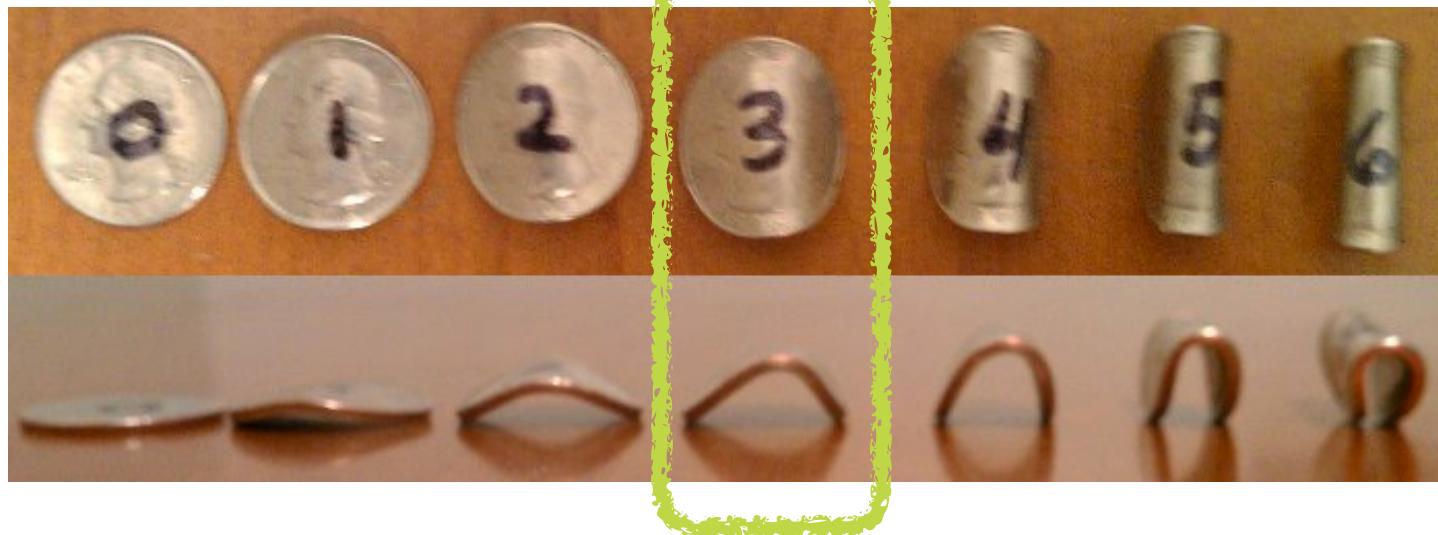


## Making a biased coin

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$p(\text{heads}) \approx 60\%$

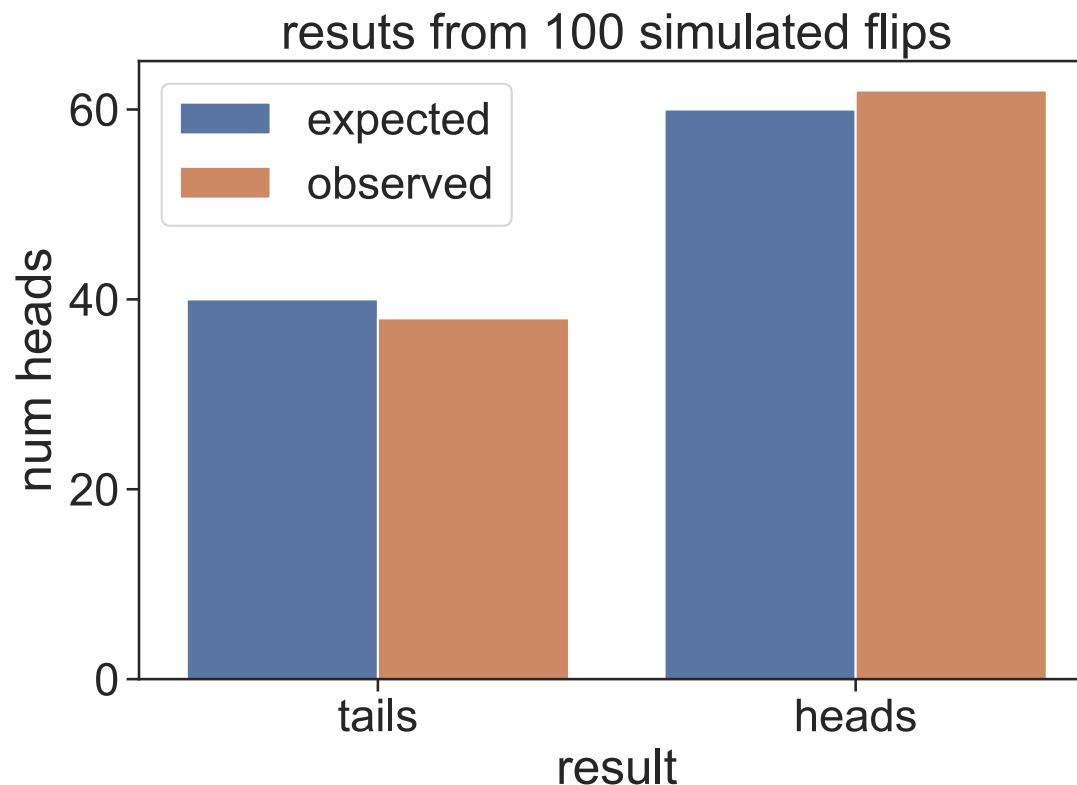


Mike Izbicki (Claremont McKenna College)

<https://izbicki.me/blog/how-to-create-an-unfair-coin-and-prove-it-with-math.html>

The number of heads after 100 flips of the biased coin will resemble the underlying probabilities, but will not match exactly

---



**expected:** 60 heads, 40 tails

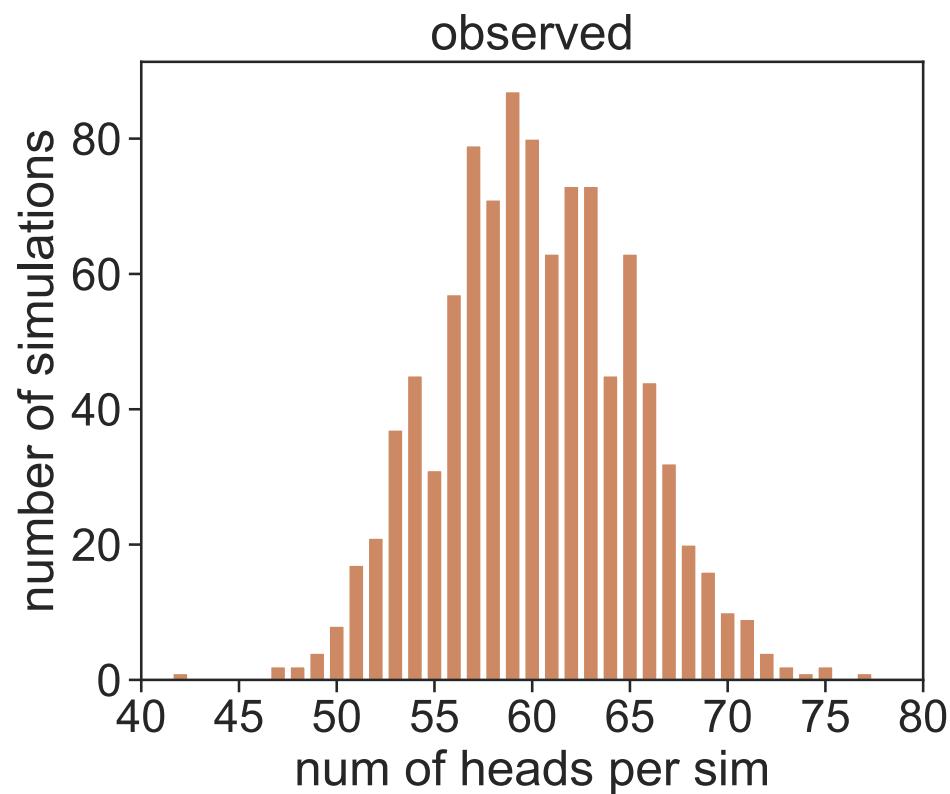
**observed:** 62 heads, 38 tails

How much deviation from the expected values do we expect?

**There is substantial variation across replicates. This is to be expected.**

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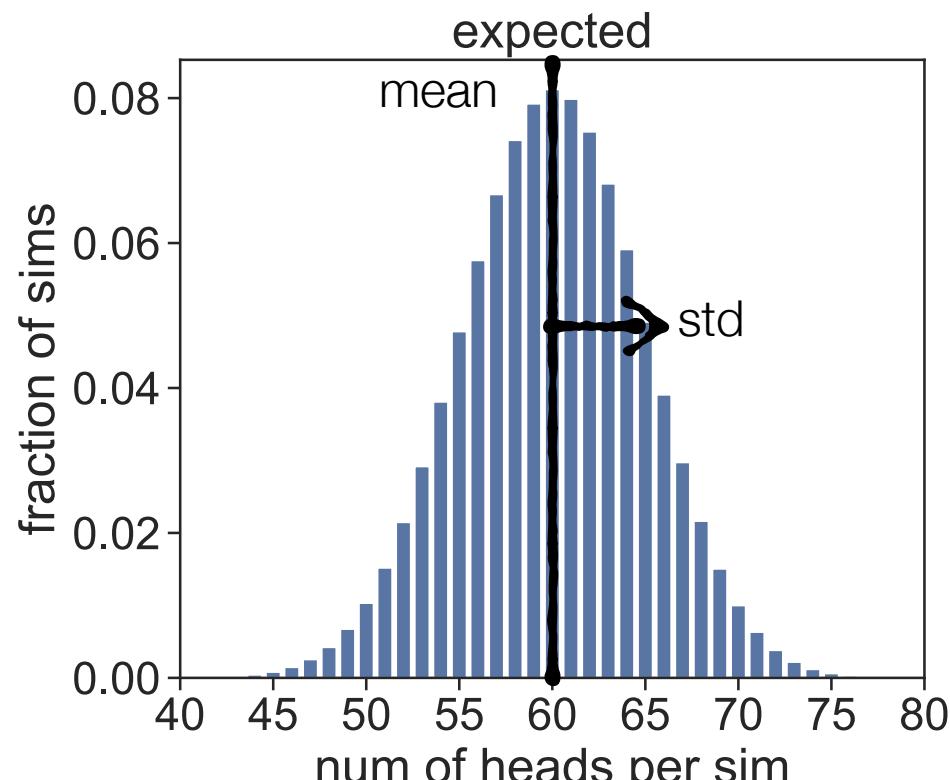
Results from 1000 simulations, 100 flips per simulation



## The variation in the number of heads from replicate to replicate is described by a binomial distribution

---

Results from 1000 simulations, 100 flips per simulation



**mean = 60**

**standard deviation (std) = 4.9**

## Can we determine whether or not a coin is biased by flipping it 100 times?

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Suppose we flip a coin 100 times and observe **62 heads** (and 38 tails).

**Null hypothesis:** heads and tails are equally likely, i.e.

$$p(\text{heads}) = 50\%$$

**Alternative hypothesis:** heads and tails are not equally likely, i.e.

$$p(\text{heads}) \neq 50\%$$

Our observation (62 heads) may or may not allow us to reject the null hypothesis and thus accept the alternative hypothesis.

No amount of data, however, can cause us to accept the null hypothesis.

flips.pzfx — Edited

Table format: Parts of whole

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	flips	Title							
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
1	heads	62							
2	tails	38							
3	Title								
4	Title								
5	Title								
6	Title								
7	Title								
8	Title								
9	Title								
10	Title								
11	Title								
12	Title								
13	Title								
14	Title								
15	Title								
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23	Title								
24	Title								
25	Title								

Family

Data 1

Data 1

Search

Data Tables

Data 1

New Data Table...

Info

Project info 1

New Info...

Results

New Analysis...

Graphs

Data 1

New Graph...

Layouts

New Layout...

Row 6, Column C

## Create New Analysis

### Data to analyze

Table: Data 1

### Type of analysis

Which analysis?

- ▼ **Transform, Normalize...**
  - Transform
  - Transform concentrations (X)
  - Normalize
  - Prune rows
  - Remove baseline and column math
  - Transpose X and Y
  - Fraction of Total
- **XY analyses**
- **Column analyses**
- **Grouped analyses**
- **Contingency table analyses**
- **Survival analyses**
- ▼ **Parts of whole analyses**
  - Fraction of Total
  - Compare observed distribution with ex...**
- **Multiple variable analyses**
- **Nested analyses**
- **Generate curve**
- **Simulate data**
- **Recently used**

Analyze which data sets?

A:flips

When you analyze tables or graphs with more than one data set, use this space to select which data set(s) to analyze.

Select All

Deselect All



Cancel

OK

Parameters: Compare observed distribution with expected

This analysis expects that each value in the data table is an actual number of events or items, and is not normalized in any way.

**Data set to analyze**  
A: flips

**Enter expected values as**

Actual numbers of objects or events  
 Percentages

**With two rows, perform**

Binomial test (recommended)  
 Chi-square test for goodness of fit

**Expected distribution**

Row	Outcome	Observed %	Expected %
1	heads	62	50
2	tails	38	50

**Output**

Method to calculate CI: Wilson/Brown (recommended)

Show this many significant digits (for everything except P values): 4

P value style: GP: 0.1234 (ns), 0.0332 (\*), 0.0021 (\*\*), 0.000... N= 6

?

Cancel

OK

flips.pzfx — Edited

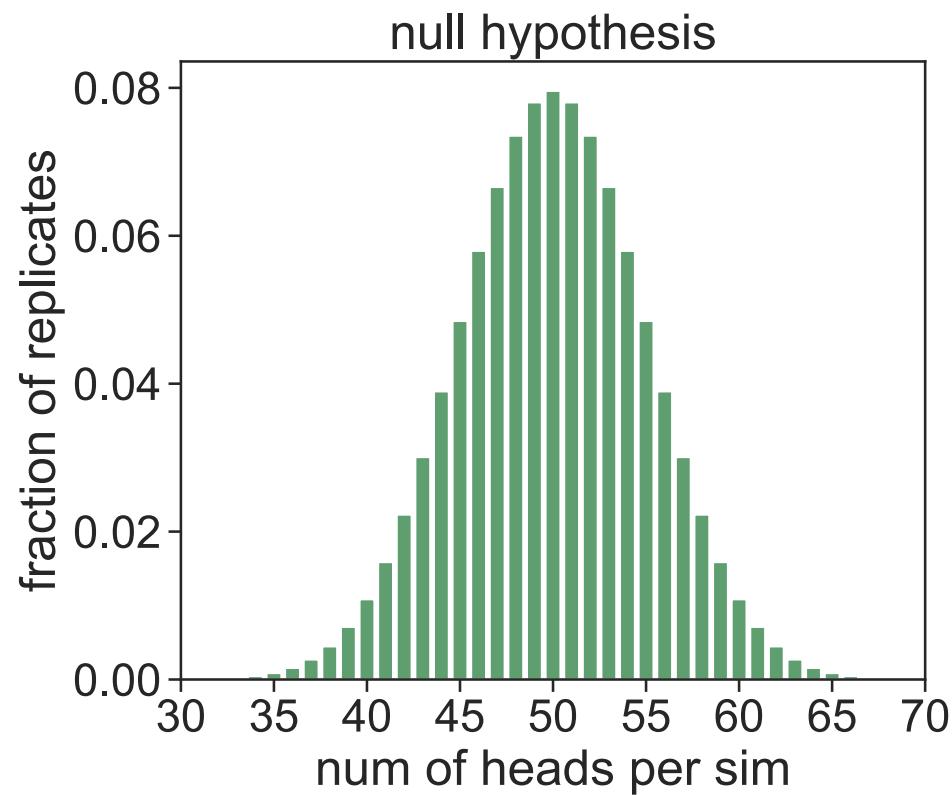
**O vs. E**

1	Table analyzed	Data 1				
2	Column analyzed	Column A				
3						
4	<b>Binomial test</b>					
5	P (one-tailed)	0.0105				
6	P (two-tailed)	0.0210				
7	P value summary	*				
8	Is discrepancy significant ( $P < 0.05$ )?	Yes				
9						
10	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Expected #</b>	<b>Observed #</b>	<b>Expected %</b>	<b>Observed %</b>	<b>95% CI of Observed %</b>
11	heads	50.00	62	50.00	62.00	52.21 to 70.90
12	tails	50.00	38	50.00	38.00	29.10 to 47.79
13	<b>TOTAL</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00	
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						

O vs. E of Data 1

Row 1, Column A

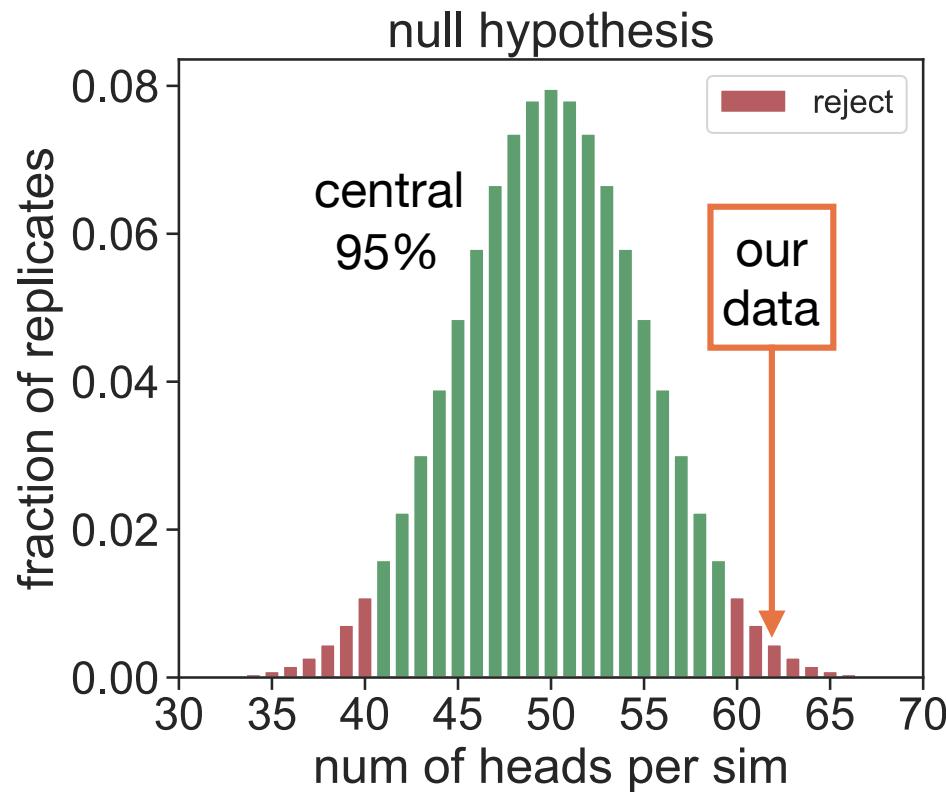
The null hypothesis is assessed by where the data fall within the null distribution



## We reject the null hypothesis of the data fall too far away from the bulk of the distribution

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If the null hypothesis is true, data should fall within the green region 95% of the time, and within the red “reject” region 5% of the time.

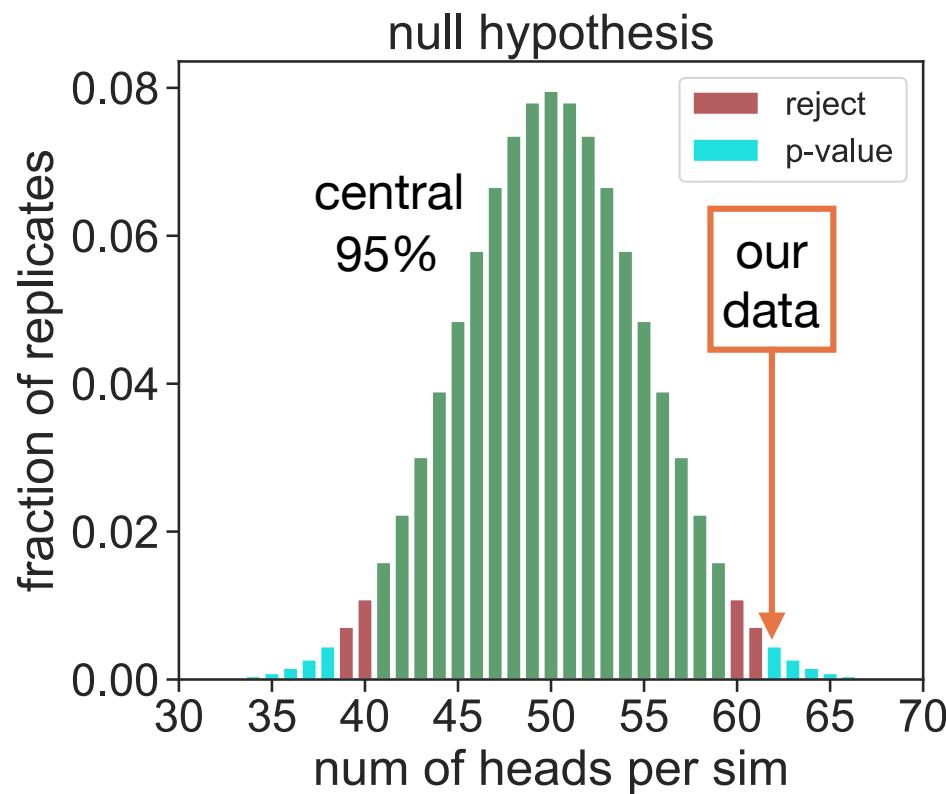


Our assumed dataset (62 heads) lies outside the central 95%.

We can therefore reject the null hypothesis with 95% confidence.

P-values quantify the probability of data being as or more extreme than the data in hand were the null hypothesis true.

The P-value threshold of 0.05 comes from adopting a confidence threshold of 95%.



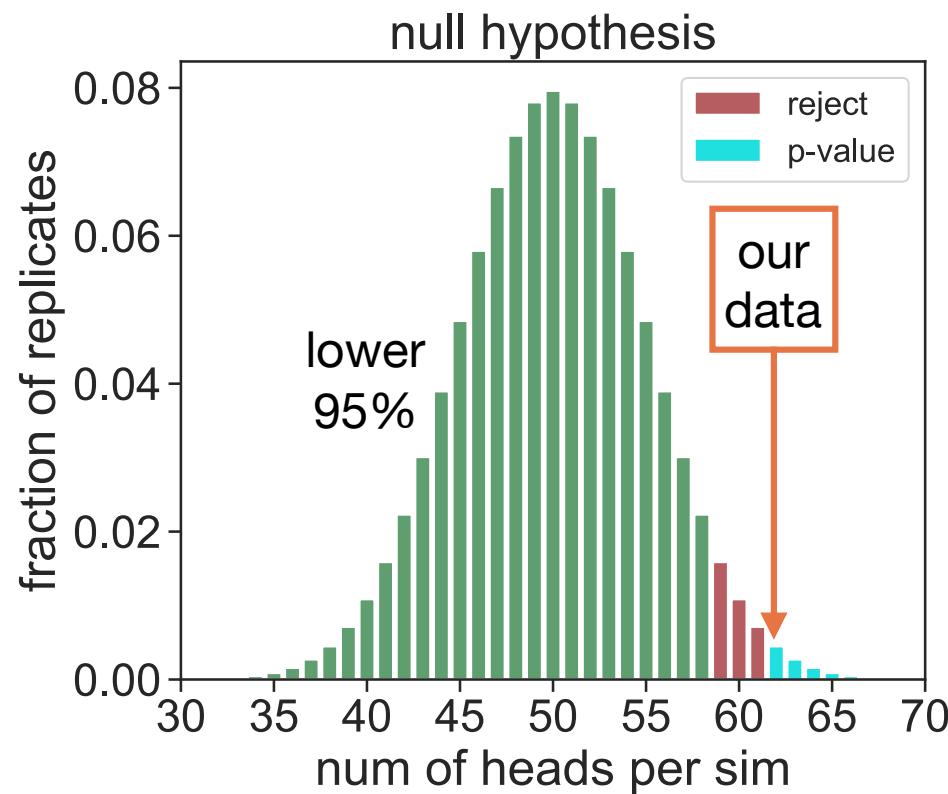
We find that **p=0.0210** for the two-sided test.

We therefore say that our result is “statistically significant”

P-values quantify the probability of data being as or more extreme than the data in hand were the null hypothesis true.

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A one-sided hypothesis test only considers one side of the distribution.

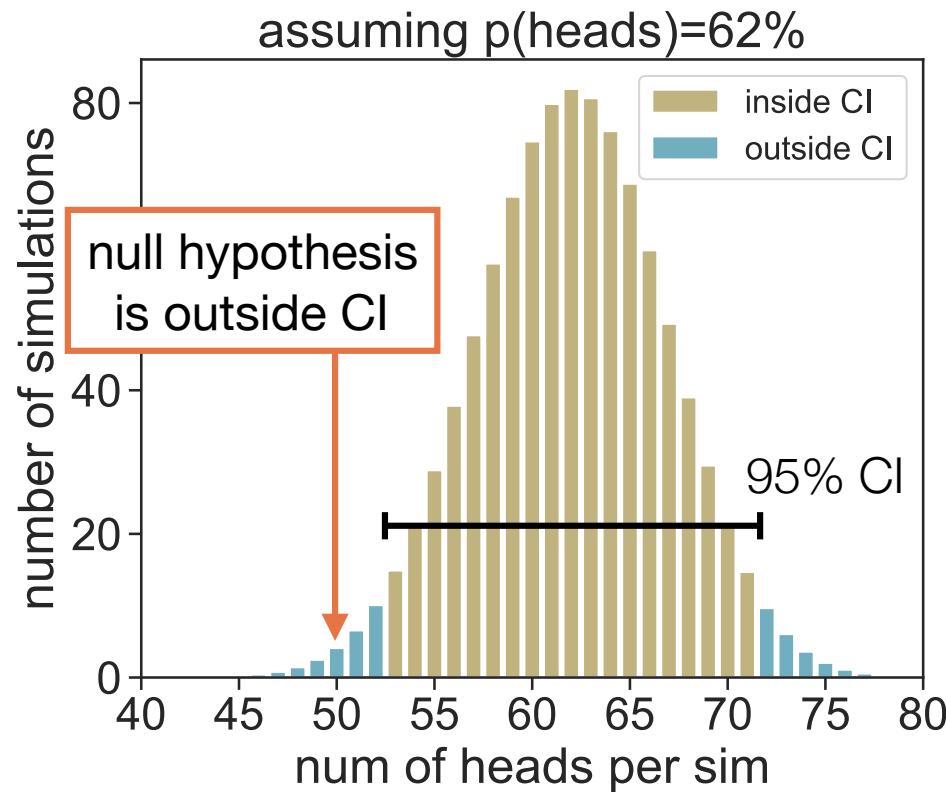


We find that **p=0.0105** for the one-sided test.

In general, two-sided tests are more conservative than one-sided tests.

Unless you have good reason to do otherwise, use two-sided tests.

## Confidence intervals (CIs) are more informative than P-values



We conclude that  $p(\text{heads})$  lies within  $[52.5\%, 71.5\%]$  with 95% confidence.

We can reject the null hypothesis because it lies outside this confidence interval.

## P-values have multiple pitfalls

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- “Statistically significant” does not actually mean “significant” in the normal sense. At best, it means “detectable”.
- P-values do not say how big an observed effect is.
- P-values do not say how important that observed effect is.
- P-values calculations rely on assumptions, and violation of any of those assumptions can render P-values meaningless.
- Perhaps most severe is the fact that P-values do not actually quantify you how likely or unlikely your null hypothesis is!

## Why are Confidence Intervals better than P-values?

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- Like a P-value, a CI communicates statistical significance (i.e. detectability).
- A CI also communicates effect size, as well as the uncertainty in that effect size.
- A 95% CI does not actually mean that the true value of a parameter lies within that interval with 95% probability. Still, this (extremely common) misinterpretation is largely benign compared to the misinterpretation of P-values.
- However, P-values are more commonly reported than confidence intervals.

## **The perils of null hypothesis testing**

## Summary of null hypothesis testing

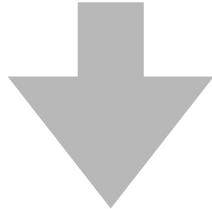
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**Step 1:** Specify a null hypothesis.

**Step 2:** Specify a confidence level (usually 95%)

**Step 3:** Identify the appropriate statistical test

**Then:**  
evaluate on data



**Result:** P-value summarizing how unlikely the data is compared to null hypothesis expectations.

## Perhaps most problematic is how easily P-values are misinterpreted.

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Roughly speaking, P-values quantify how likely our data would be if the null hypothesis were true.

$$p(\text{data} \mid \text{null hypothesis})$$

P-values do not quantify the probability of the null hypothesis given our data. Unfortunately, this is the quantity that we actually care about.

$$p(\text{null hypothesis} \mid \text{data})$$

## My opinion: the use of P-values to reject hypotheses is predicated on the base rate fallacy

---

By convention  $P < 0.05$ , then one rejects null hypothesis, supposedly because  $p(\text{null hypothesis} | \text{data})$  is small.

For this to make sense, one has to accept the base rate fallacy, i.e.,

$$p(\text{data} | \text{null hypothesis}) \approx p(\text{null hypothesis} | \text{data})$$

Whether or not this is true in a specific case depends on the prior odds,

$$p(\text{null hypothesis}),$$

which Frequentist statistics refuses to consider.

## The misinterpretation of P-values reflects the Frequentist / Bayesian divide

---

**Frequentist** statistics (a.k.a. classical statistics) focuses on likelihood:

$$p(\text{data} \mid \text{hypothesis}).$$

**Iron Law of Frequentist Statistics:**

Never compute the probability of a hypothesis.

**Bayesian** statistics focuses on computing posterior probabilities:

$$p(\text{hypothesis} \mid \text{data}).$$

### **Example 3: Supernova detection machine**

## Exercise: supernova

DID THE SUN JUST EXPLODE?  
(IT'S NIGHT, SO WE'RE NOT SURE.)

THIS NEUTRINO DETECTOR MEASURES  
WHETHER THE SUN HAS GONE NOVA.

LET'S TRY.  
DETECTOR! HAS THE  
SUN GONE NOVA?

THEN, IT ROLLS TWO DICE. IF THEY  
BOTH COME UP SIX, IT LIES TO US.  
OTHERWISE, IT TELLS THE TRUTH.

ROLL  
YES.



FREQUENTIST STATISTICIAN:

THE PROBABILITY OF THIS RESULT  
HAPPENING BY CHANCE IS  $\frac{1}{36} = 0.027$ .  
SINCE  $p < 0.05$ , I CONCLUDE  
THAT THE SUN HAS EXPLODED.



Bayesian Statistician:

BET YOU \$50  
IT HASN'T.



## Exercise: supernova

Bayes's theorem (from yesterday):

$$\frac{p(\text{nova}^+ | \text{detector}^+)}{p(\text{nova}^- | \text{detector}^+)} = \frac{p(\text{detector}^+ | \text{nova}^+)}{p(\text{detector}^+ | \text{nova}^-)} \times \frac{p(\text{nova}^+)}{p(\text{nova}^-)}$$

$$\left[ \frac{35/36}{1/36} = 35 \right]$$

If our prior belief is that a supernova is very unlikely, i.e.

$$\frac{p(\text{nova}^+)}{p(\text{nova}^-)} \ll \frac{1}{35},$$

then we still shouldn't believe the sun has gone nova.

<https://xkcd.com/1132/>

Even though, with a null hypothesis of  $\text{nova}^-$ ,

$$\text{P value} = p(\text{detector}^+ | \text{nova}^-) = \frac{1}{36} = 0.028 < 0.05$$

## **Example 4: Mendel's Peas**

	Flower Colour	Plant Height	Seed Color	Seed Shape	Pod Colour	Pod Shape	Flower Position
Dominant Trait			3/4 	3/4 			
Recessive Trait			1/4 	1/4 			

## Chi square test (known proportions)

---

### Example: Mendel's peas

	observed	expected proportion	expected counts
Round & yellow	315	9/16	312.75
Round & green	108	3/16	104.25
Angular & yellow	101	3/16	104.25
Angular & green	32	1/16	34.75
Total	556	16/16	556.00

### Null Hypothesis:

observations in  $K = 4$  different categories occur in the expected proportions

**Data:** number of observations in each category

**Statistic:**  $\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\text{observed} - \text{expected})^2}{\text{expected}}$

**Null distribution:** Chi square distribution with  $K - 1 = 3$  degrees of freedom (DOF)

peas.pzfx

Table format:  
**Parts of whole**

	A	B
	observed	Title
1	Y	Y
2	315	
3	108	
4	101	
5	32	
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

Search

Data Tables

▼ Data Tables

► Data 1

⊕ New Data Table...

Info

▼ Info

► Project info 1

► New Info...

Results

▼ Results

► E of Data 1

⊕ New Analysis...

Graphs

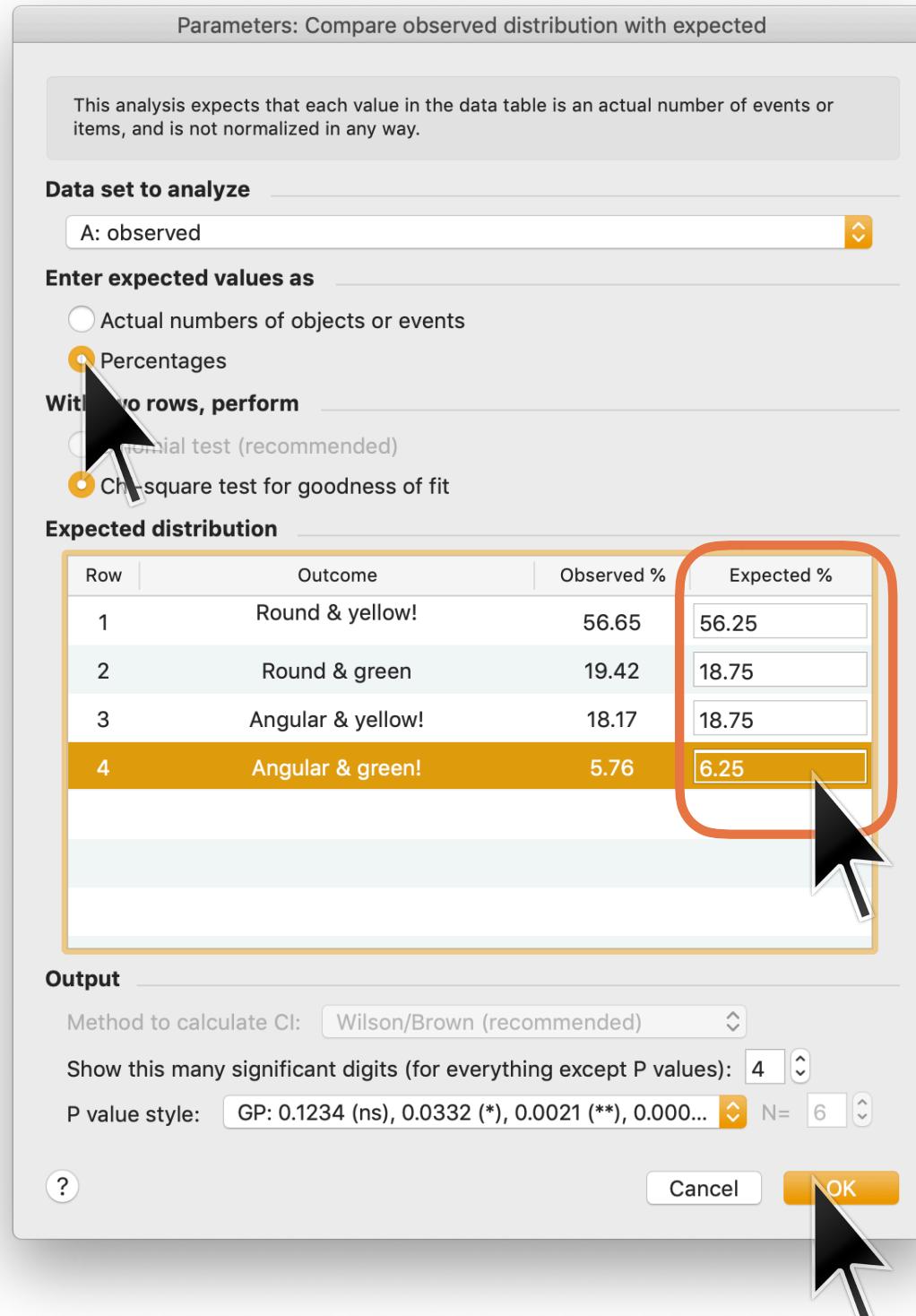
Family

► Data 1

► O vs. E

► Data 1

◀ ▶ 🔍 ↻ ↻



peas.pzfx — Edited

O vs. E

1 Table analyzed  
2 Column analyzed  
3  
4 Chi-square test  
5 Chi-square 0.4700  
6 DF 3  
7 P value (two-tailed) 0.9254  
8 P value summary ns  
9 Is discrepancy significant (P < 0.05)? No

11 Outcome  
12 Round & yellow  
13 Round & green  
14 Angular & yellow  
15 Angular & green  
16 TOTAL  
17

data fits expectations

Search

Data Tables

Data 1

New Data Table...

Info

Project info 1

New Info...

Results

O vs. E of Data 1

New Analysis...

Graphs

Data 1

New Graph...

Family

Data 1

O vs. E

Outcome

Expected #

Observed #

Expected %

Observed %

Round & yellow

Round & green

Angular & yellow

Angular & green

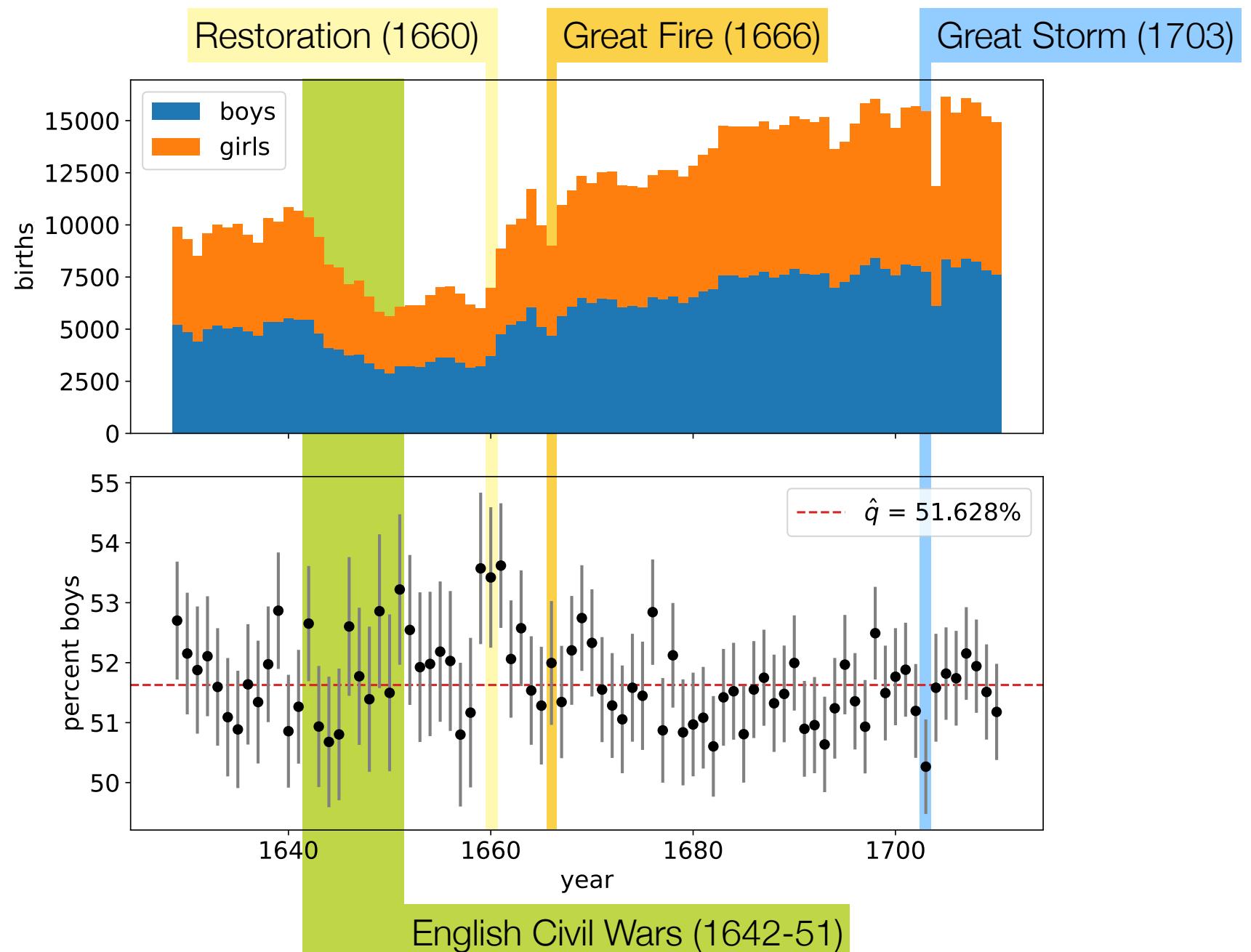
TOTAL

Row 1, Column

Row 1, Column

## **Example 4: Human sex ratio in London over time**

## Is it possible that the boy/girl ratio changes from year to year?



## Chi square test (unknown proportions)

---

year	sex	
	male	female
1629	5218	4683
1630	4858	4457
1631	4422	4102
1632	4994	4590
1633	5158	4839
1634	5035	4820
1635	5106	4928
1636	4917	4605
1637	4703	4457
1638	5359	4952

### Null Hypothesis:

Two multi-category variables  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, i.e.,

$$p(A, B) = p(A) \cdot p(B)$$

### Statistic:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\text{observed} - \text{expected})^2}{\text{expected}}$$

### Null distribution:

Chi square distribution with

$$\text{DOF} = nm - m - n + 1$$

where

$m$  = number of possible values for  $A$

$n$  = number of possible values for  $B$

arbuthnot.pzfx

Search

▼ Data Tables »

arbuthnot

+ New Data Table...

▼ Info »

Project info 1

+ New Info...

▼ Results »

>New Analysis...

▼ Graphs »

Graph...

▼ Layouts »

+ New Layout...

Table format: Contingency

Outcome A   Outcome B   Outcome C   Outcome D   Outcome E   Outcome F   Outcome G   Outcome H

boys   girls   Title   Title   Title   Title   Title   Title

Y   Y   Y   Y   Y   Y   Y   Y

		1629	5218	4683					
		1630	4858	4457					
		1631	4422	4102					
		1632	4994	4590					
		1633	5158	4839					
		6	1634	5035	4820				
		7	1635	5106	4928				
		8	1636	4917	4605				
		9	1637	4703	4457				
		10	1638	5359	4952				
		11	1639	5366	4784				
		12	1640	5518	5332				
		13	1641	5470	5200				
		14	1642	5460	4910				
		15	1643	4793	4617				
		16	1644	4107	3997				
		17	1645	4047	3919				
		18	1646	3768	3395				
		19	1647	3796	3536				
		20	1648	3363	3181				
		21	1649	3079	2746				
		22	1650	2890	2722				
		23	1651	3231	2840				
		24	1652	3220	2908				
		25	1653	3196	2959				
		26	1654	3441	3179				
		27	1655	3655	3349				
		28	1656	3668	3382				
		29	1657	3396	3289				

arbuthnot

Row 6, Column E

## Create New Analysis

### Data to analyze

Table: arbuthnot

### Type of analysis

Which analysis?

- ▼ **Transform, Normalize...**
  - Transform
  - Transform concentrations (X)
  - Normalize
  - Prune rows
  - Remove baseline and column math
  - Transpose X and Y
  - Fraction of Total
- **XY analyses**
- **Column analyses**
- **Grouped analyses**
- ▼ **Contingency table analyses**
  - Chi-square (and Fisher's exact) test**  
  - Row means with SD or SEM
  - Fraction of Total
- **Survival analyses**
- **Parts of whole analyses**
- **Multiple variable analyses**
- **Nested analyses**
- **Generate curve**
- **Simulate data**
- **Recently used**

Analyze which data sets?

- A:boys
- B:girls

Select All

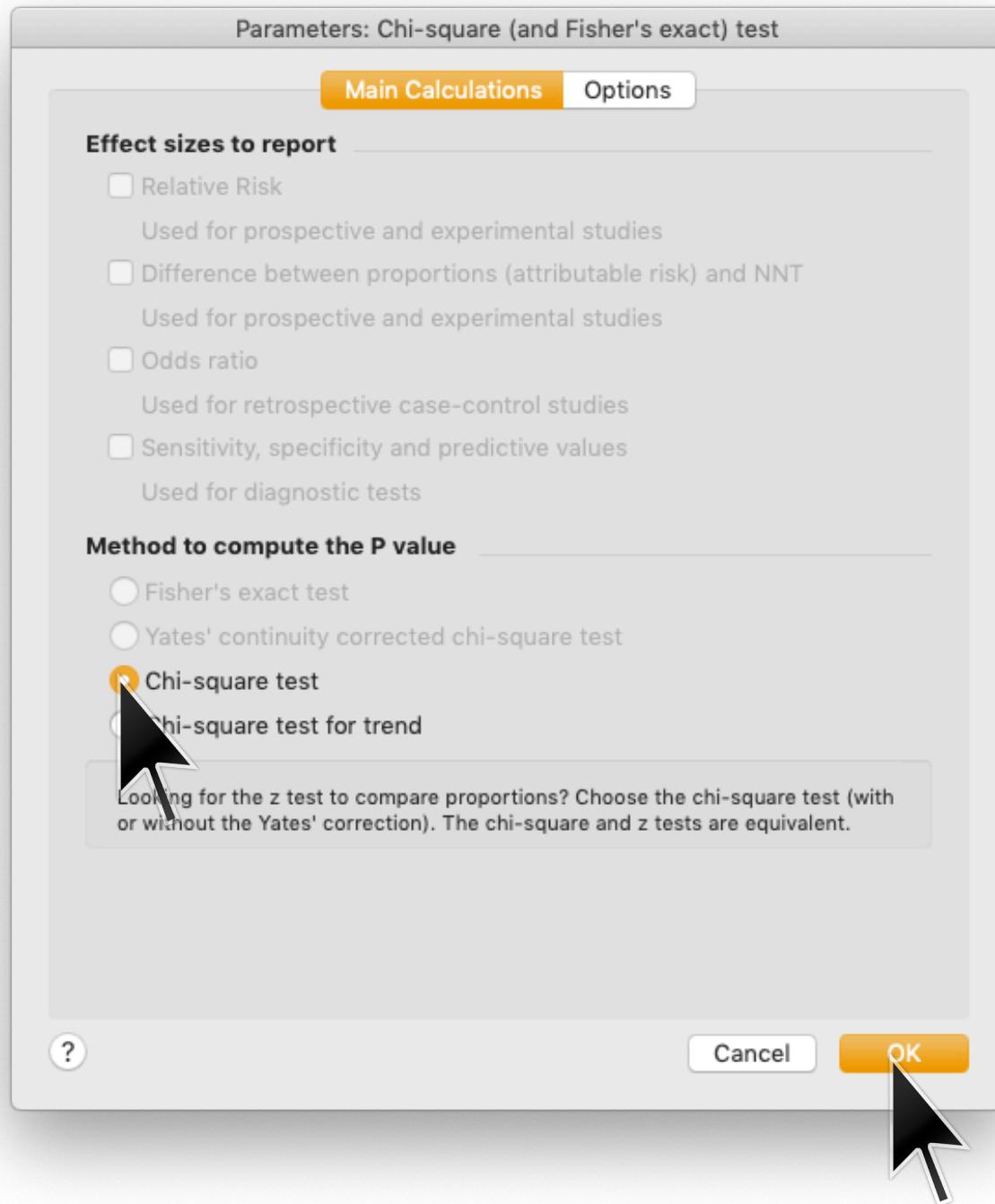
Deselect All



Cancel

OK





arbuthnot.pzfx — Edited

Contingency							
1	<b>Table Analyzed</b>	arbuthnot					
2							
3	<b>P value and statistical significance</b>						
4	Test	Chi-square					
5	Chi-square, df	169.7, 81					
6	P value	<0.0001					
7	P value summary	****					
8	One- or two-sided	NA					
9	Statistically significant (P < 0.05)?	Yes					
10							
11	<b>Data analyzed</b>						
12	Number of rows	82					
13	Number of columns	2					
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							