

# **Binomial tests**

# **Chi square tests**

# **P-values**

# **Confidence Intervals**

# **Null Hypothesis testing**

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Biostatistics Course 2024  
Lecture 2  
Tuesday, 9 July 2024  
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
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								
13 Title								
14 Title								
15 Title								
16 Title								
17 Title								
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

## 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:year 1634
- B:total

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: year 1634

**Enter expected values as**

Actual numbers of objects or events  
 Percentages

**With two rows, perform**

Chi-square 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

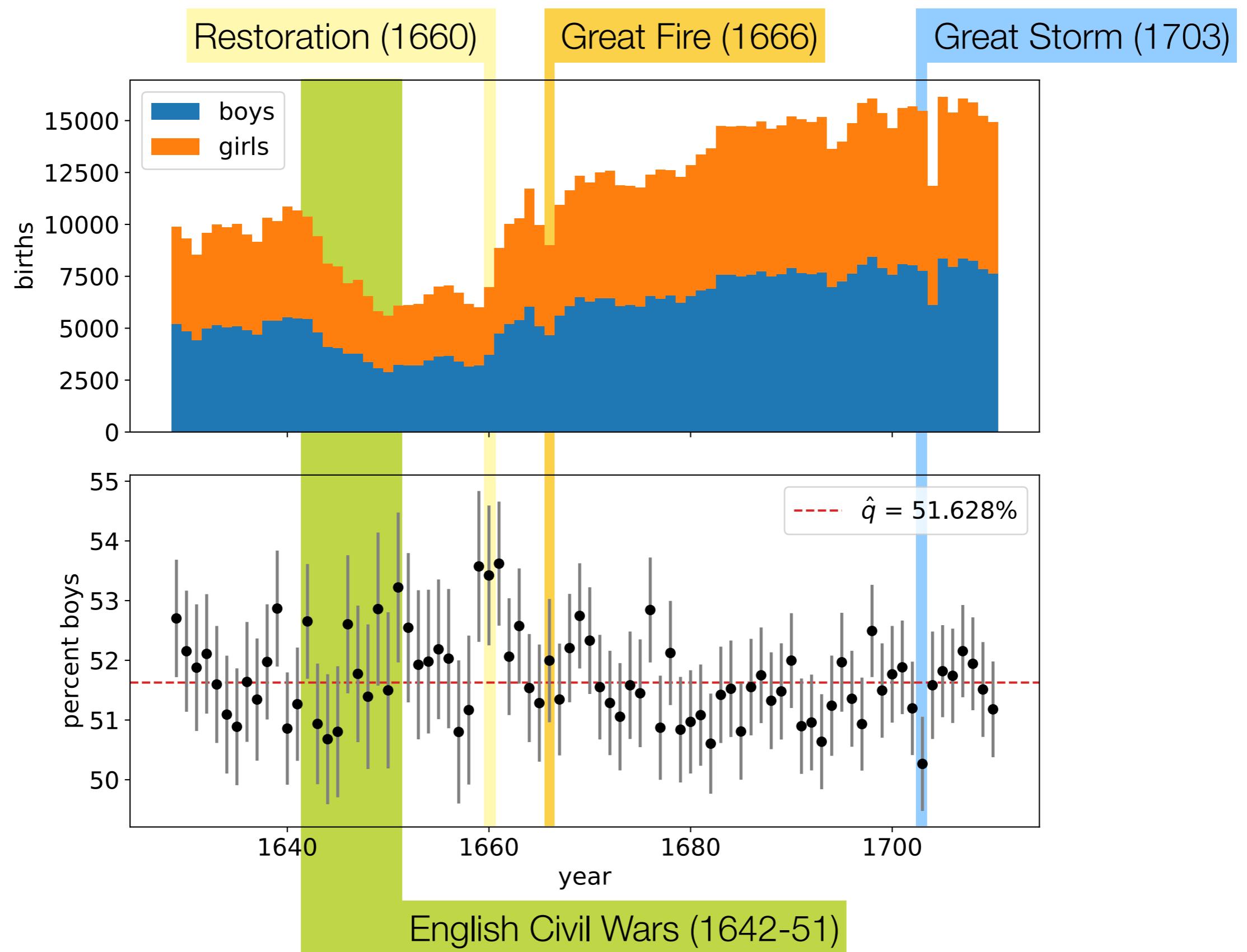
?

Cancel

OK



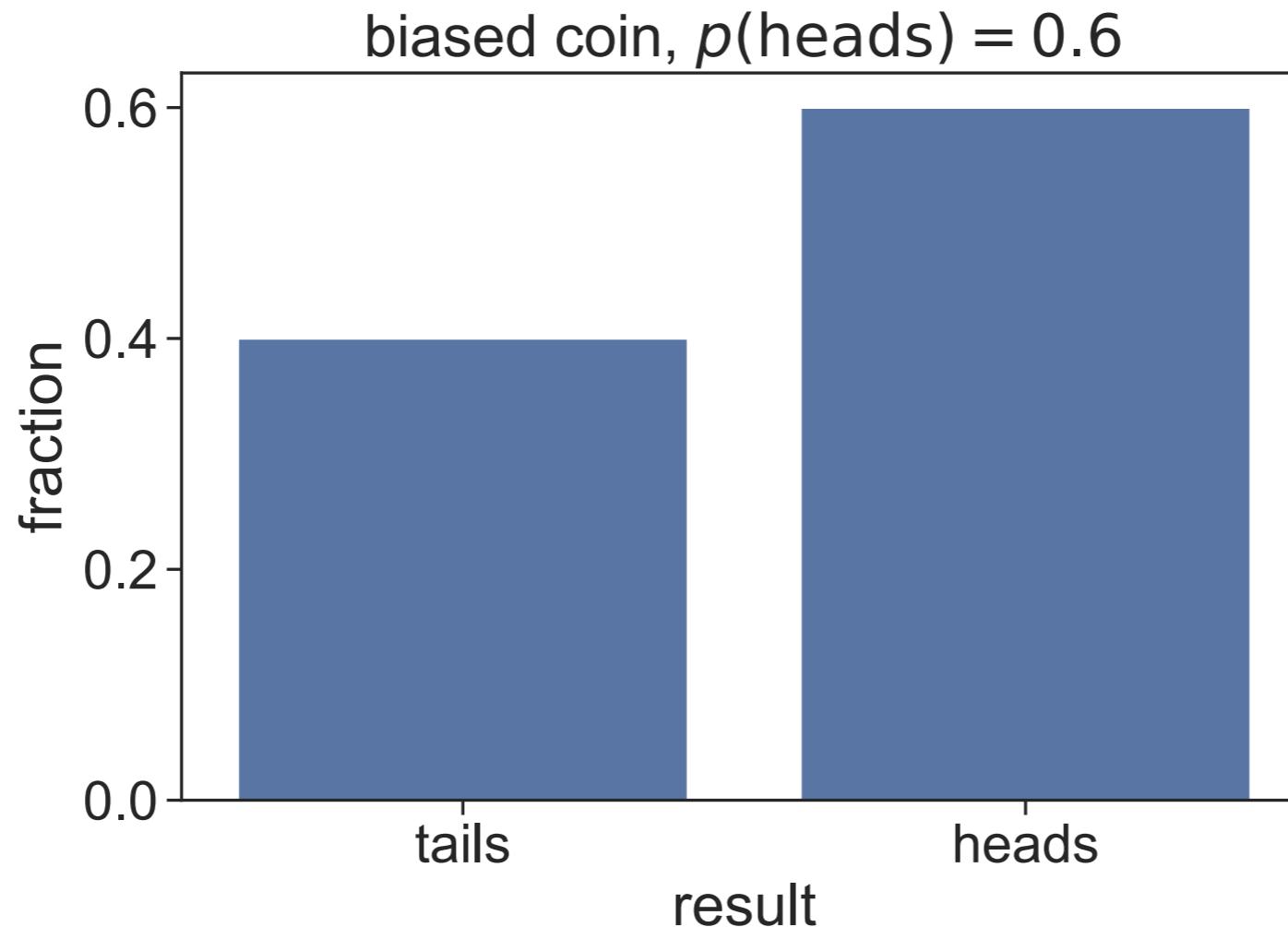
## Births in London, 1629-1710



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

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

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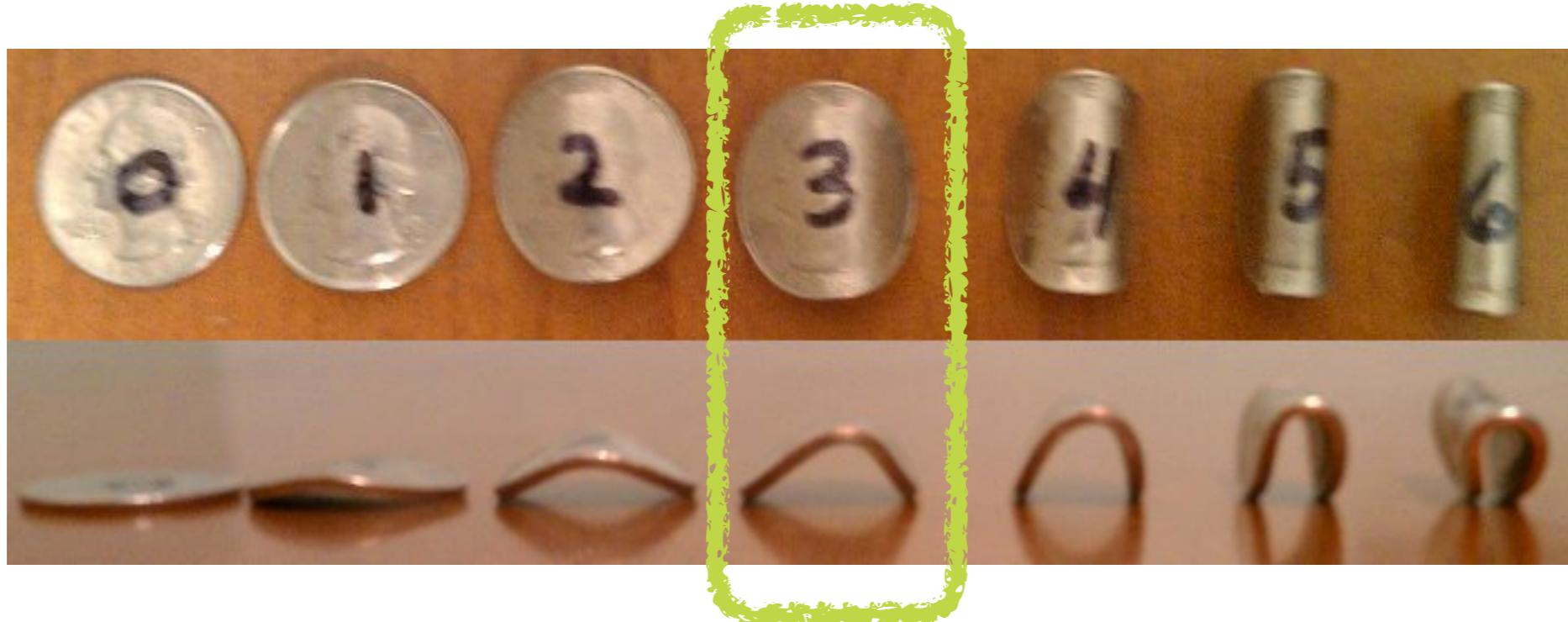


## Making a biased coin

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

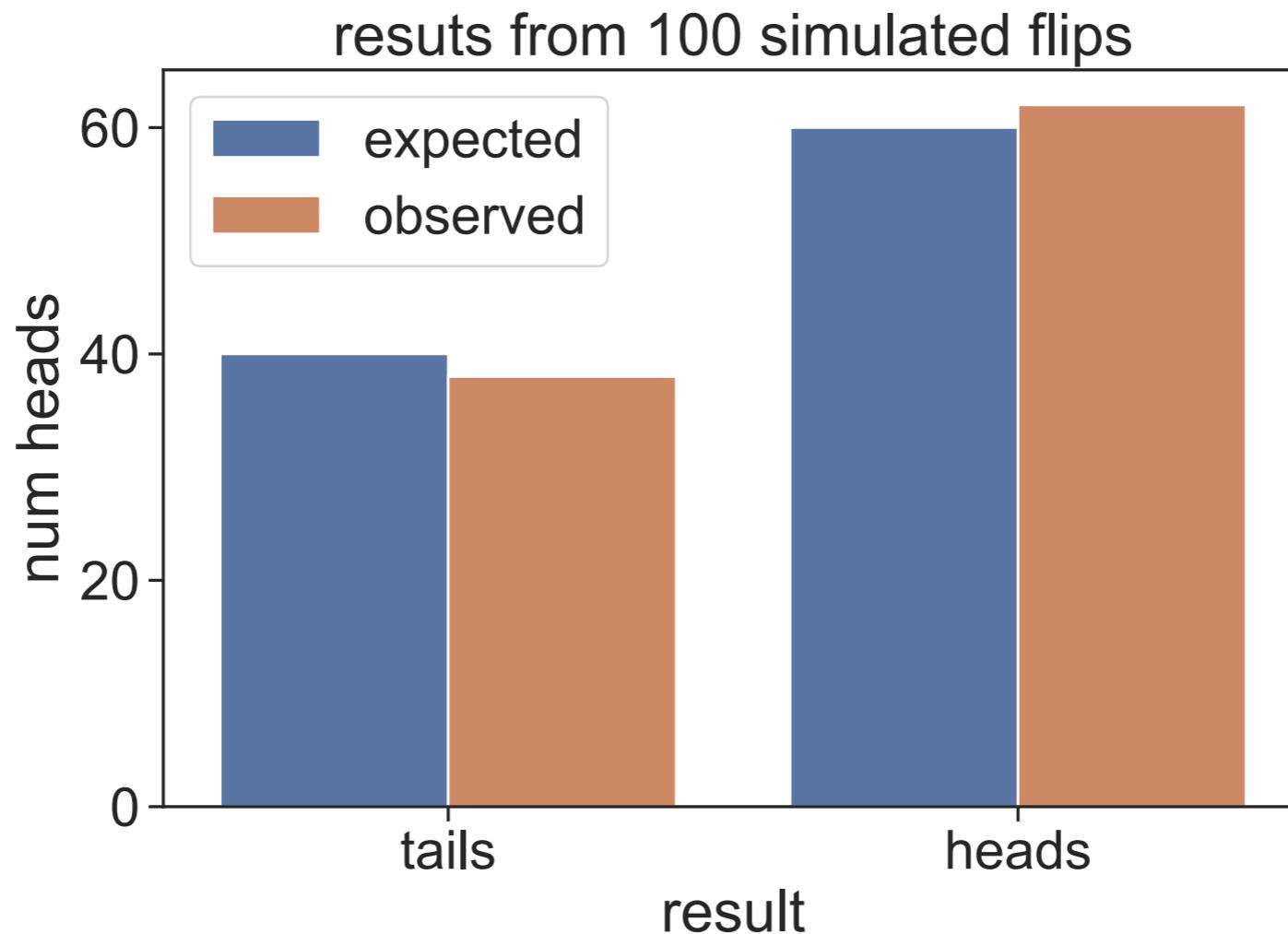


Mike Izbicki (Claremont McKenna College)

<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

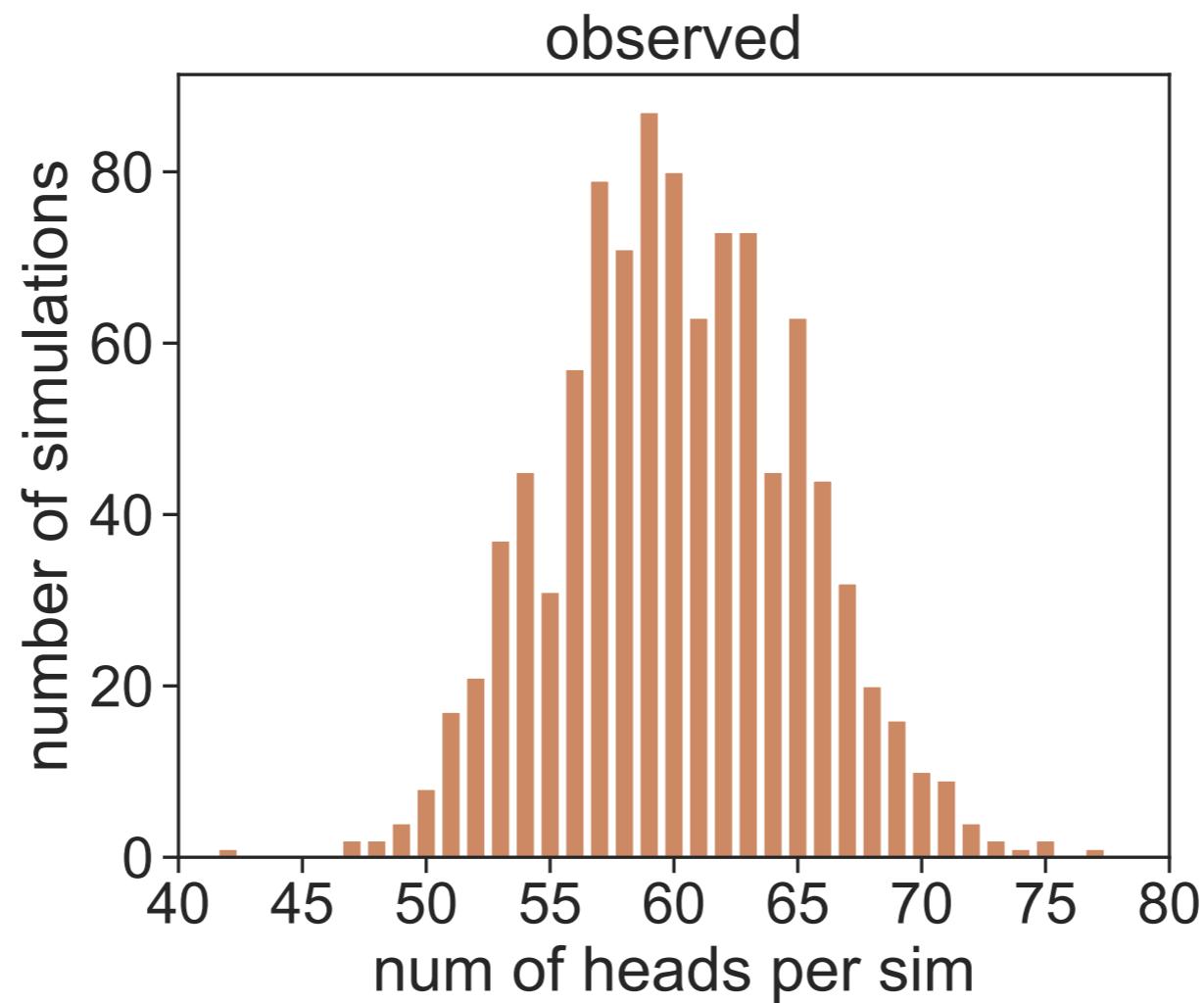
**observed:** 62 heads, 38 tails

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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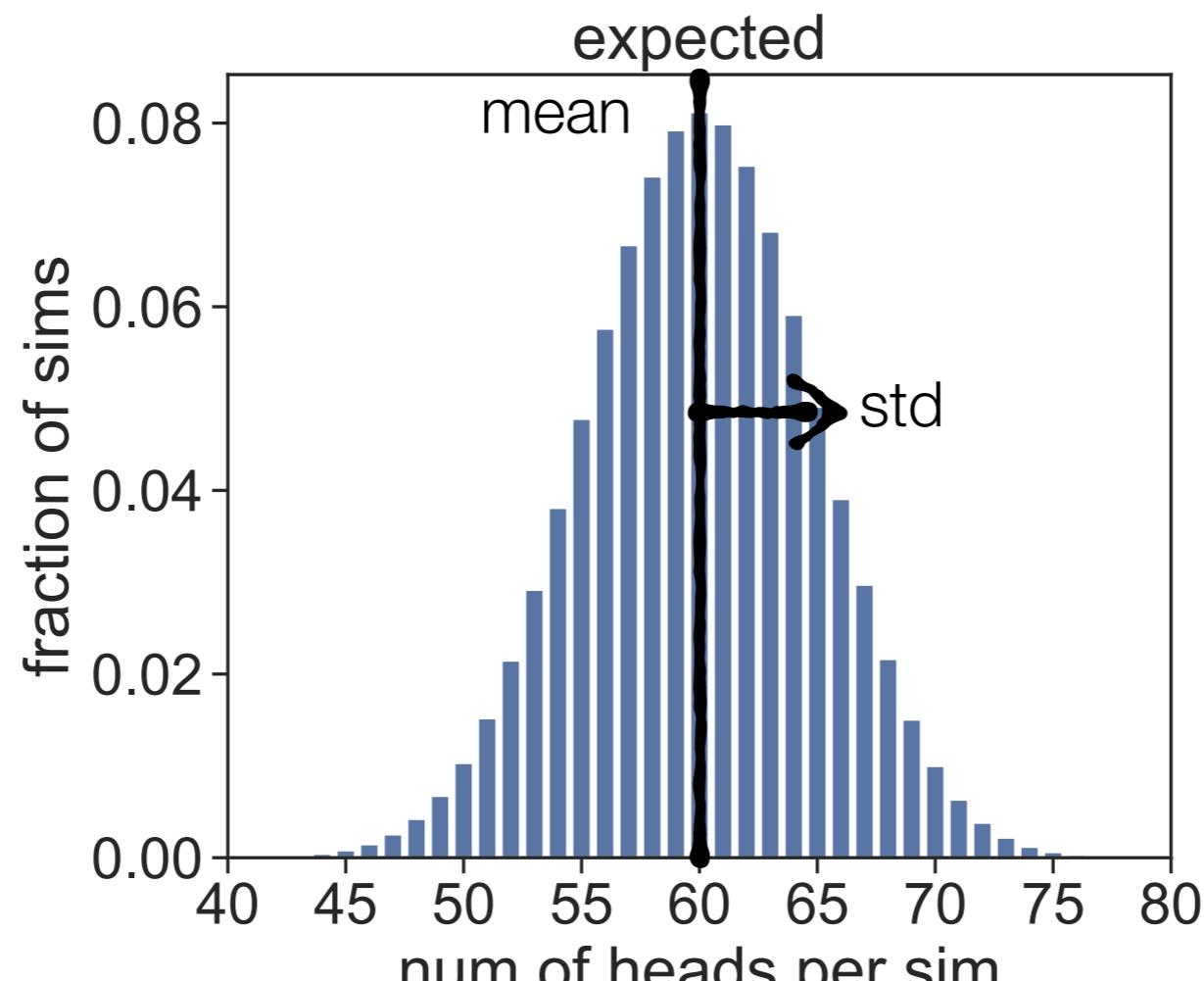
Results from 1000 simulations, 100 flips per simulation



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

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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

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	flips	Title							
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								
16	Title								
17	Title								
18	Title								
19	Title								
20	Title								
21	Title								
22	Title								
23	Title								
24	Title								
25	Title								

Family

Data 1
Data 1

Data 1

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**

Chi-square 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

X

flips.pzfx — Edited

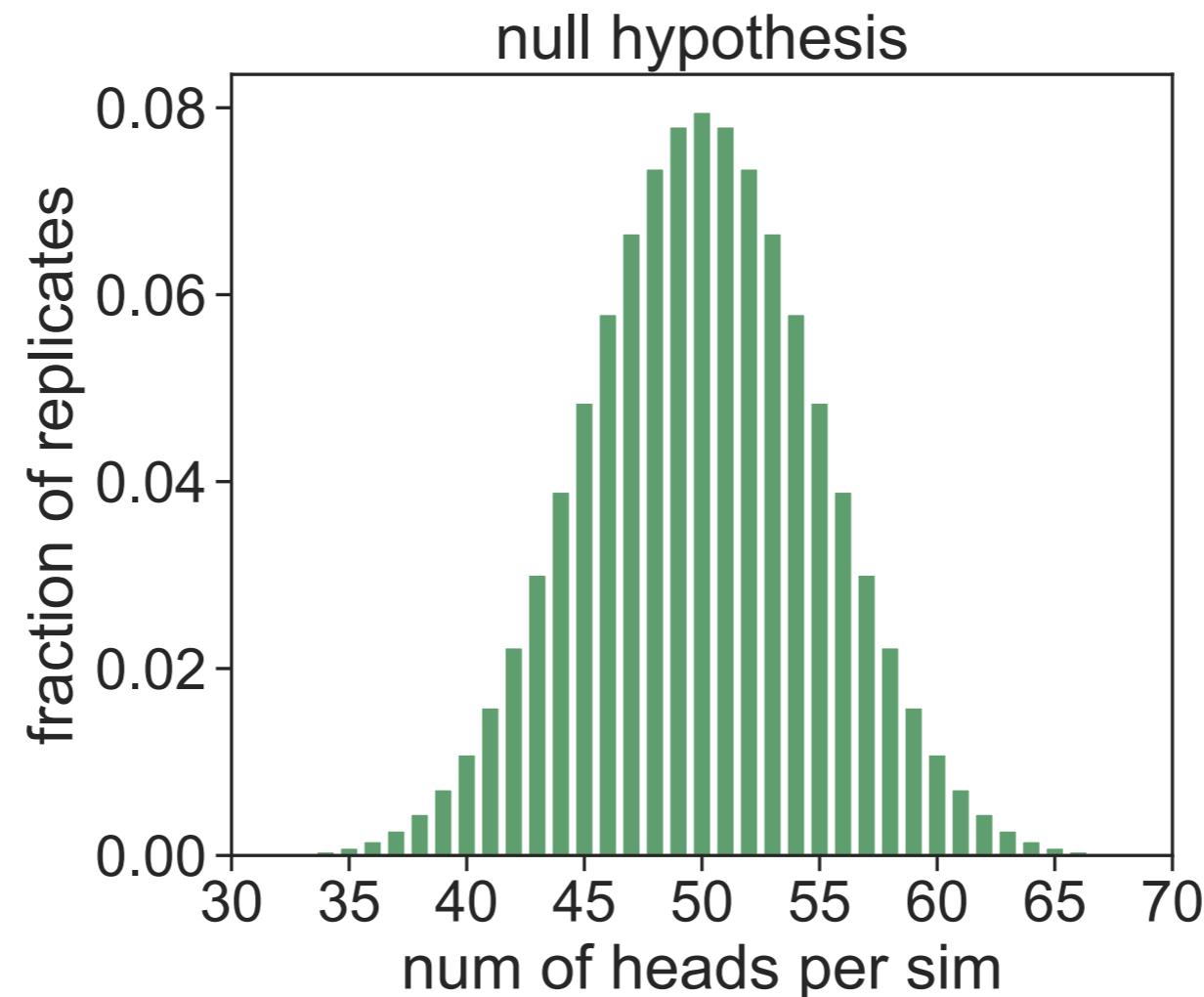
The screenshot shows the PAST software interface with the following details:

- Left Panel (Navigation):**
  - Search bar: Q~ Search
  - Data Tables section: Data 1, New Data Table...
  - Info section: Project info 1, New Info...
  - Results section: O vs. E of Data 1 (selected), New Analysis...
  - Graphs section: Data 1, New Graph...
  - Layouts section: New Layout...
  - Family section: Data 1, O vs. E (selected)
- Central Panel (Analysis Title):** O vs. E
- Table Data:** The table displays results of a Binomial test. Row 1 highlights 'Table analyzed' (Data 1, Column A). Rows 2-9 show test statistics (P values) and a significance check. Rows 10-13 provide outcome details (heads/tails, TOTAL) with expected and observed counts and percentages. Rows 14-25 are blank.

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	TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00		
14							
15							
16							
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24							
25							

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

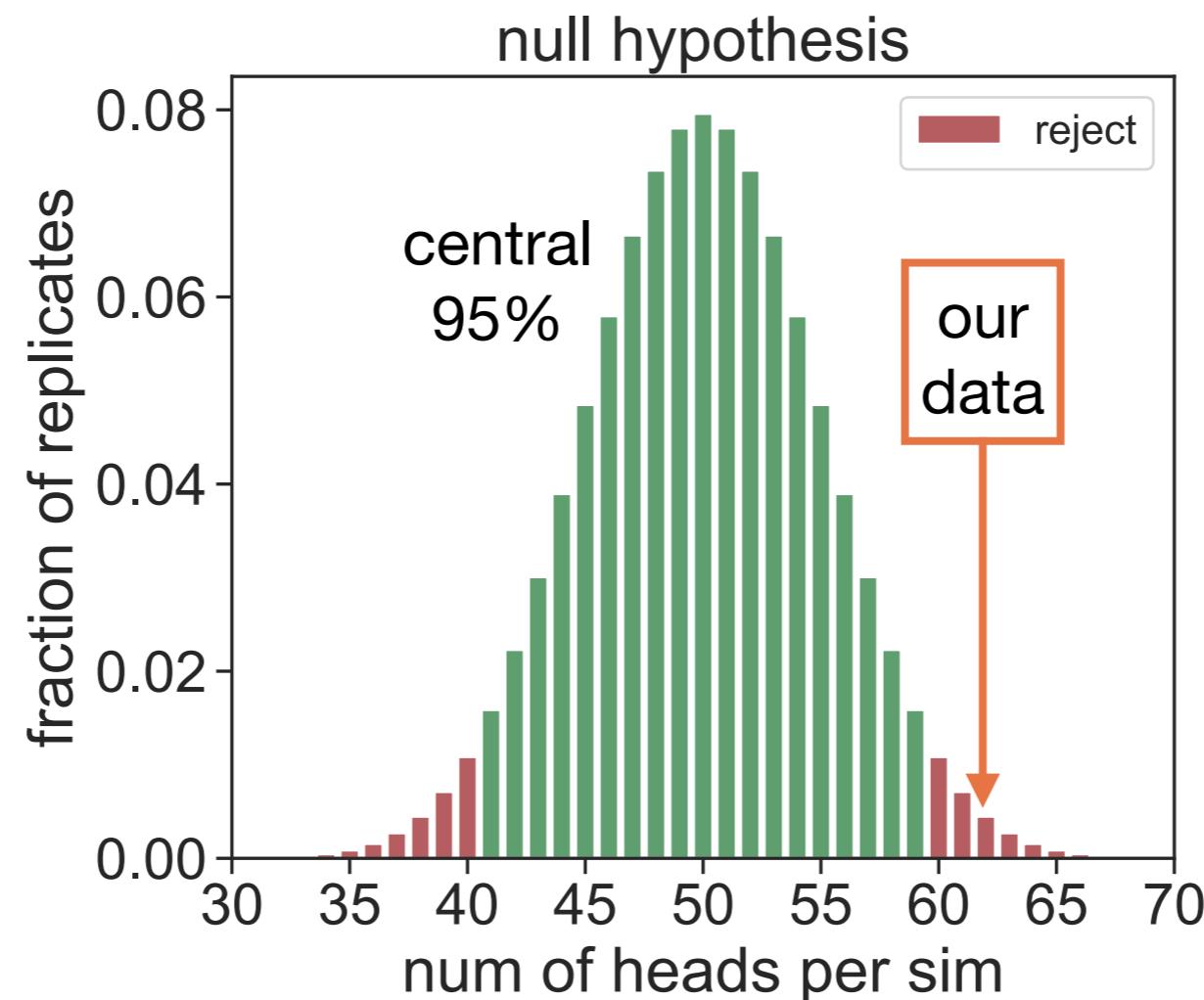
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## We reject the null hypothesis if the data fall too far away from the bulk of the distribution

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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.



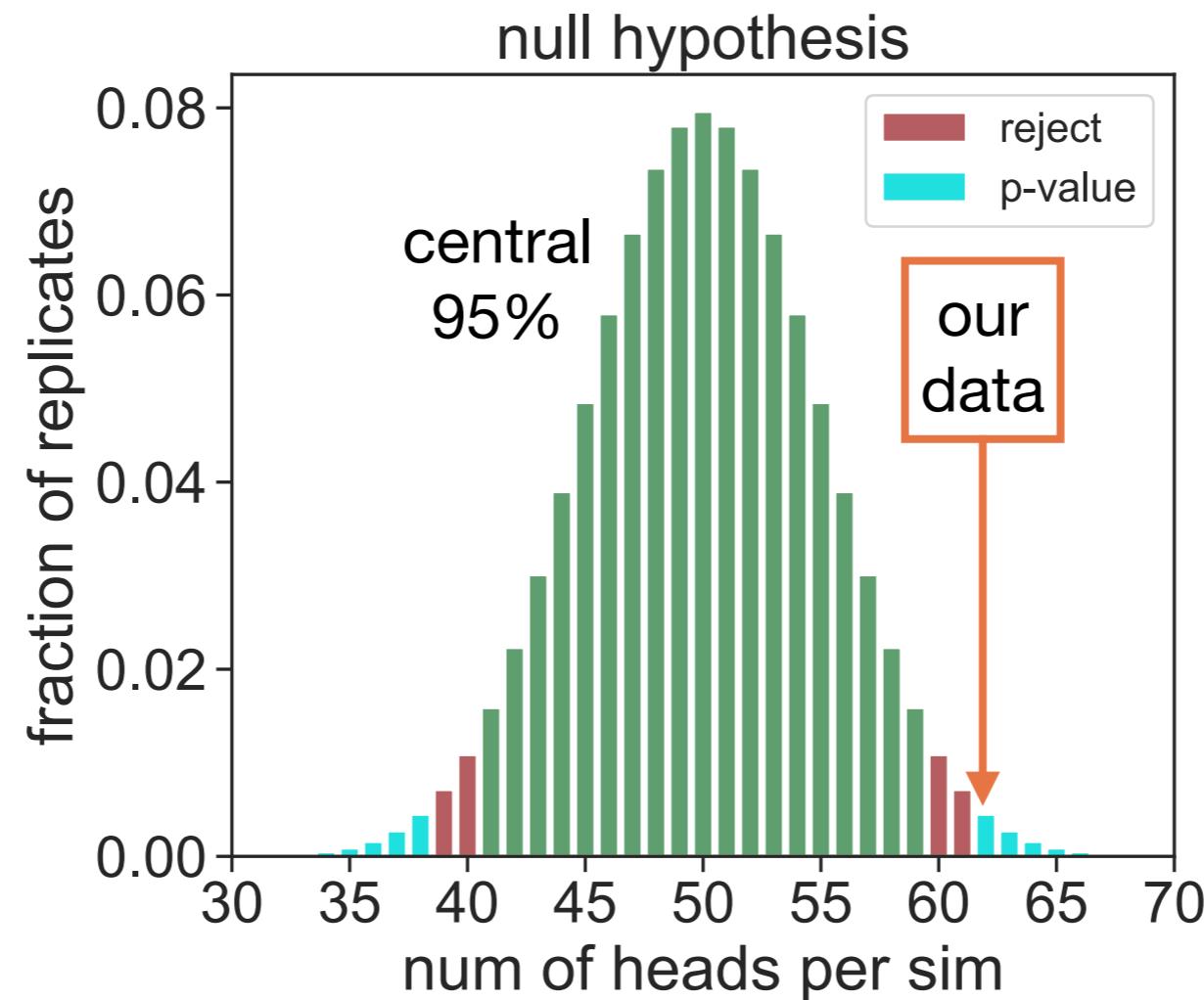
Our assumed dataset (62 heads) lies outside the central 95%.

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.

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



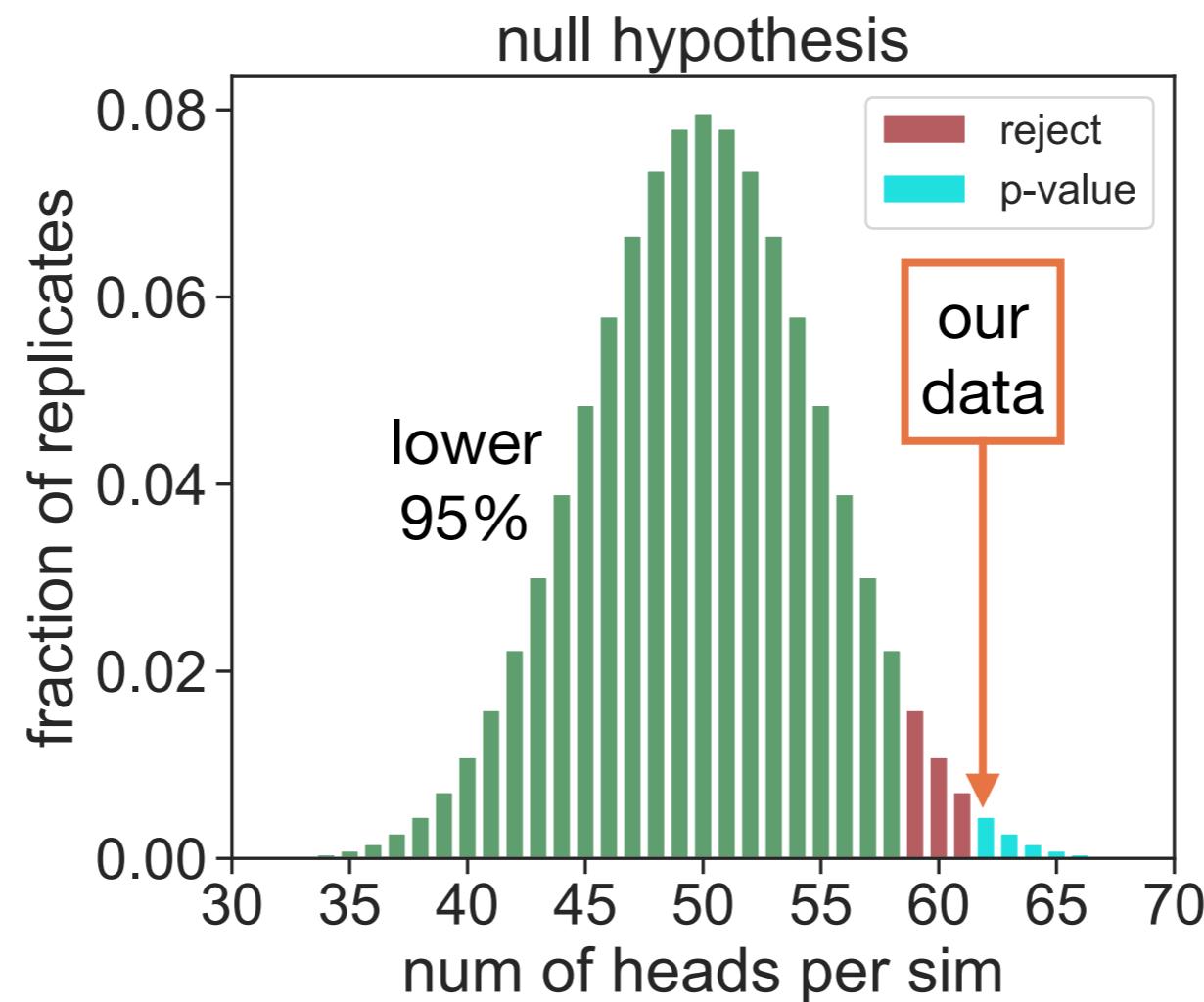
We find that **p=0.0210** for the two-sided test.

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.

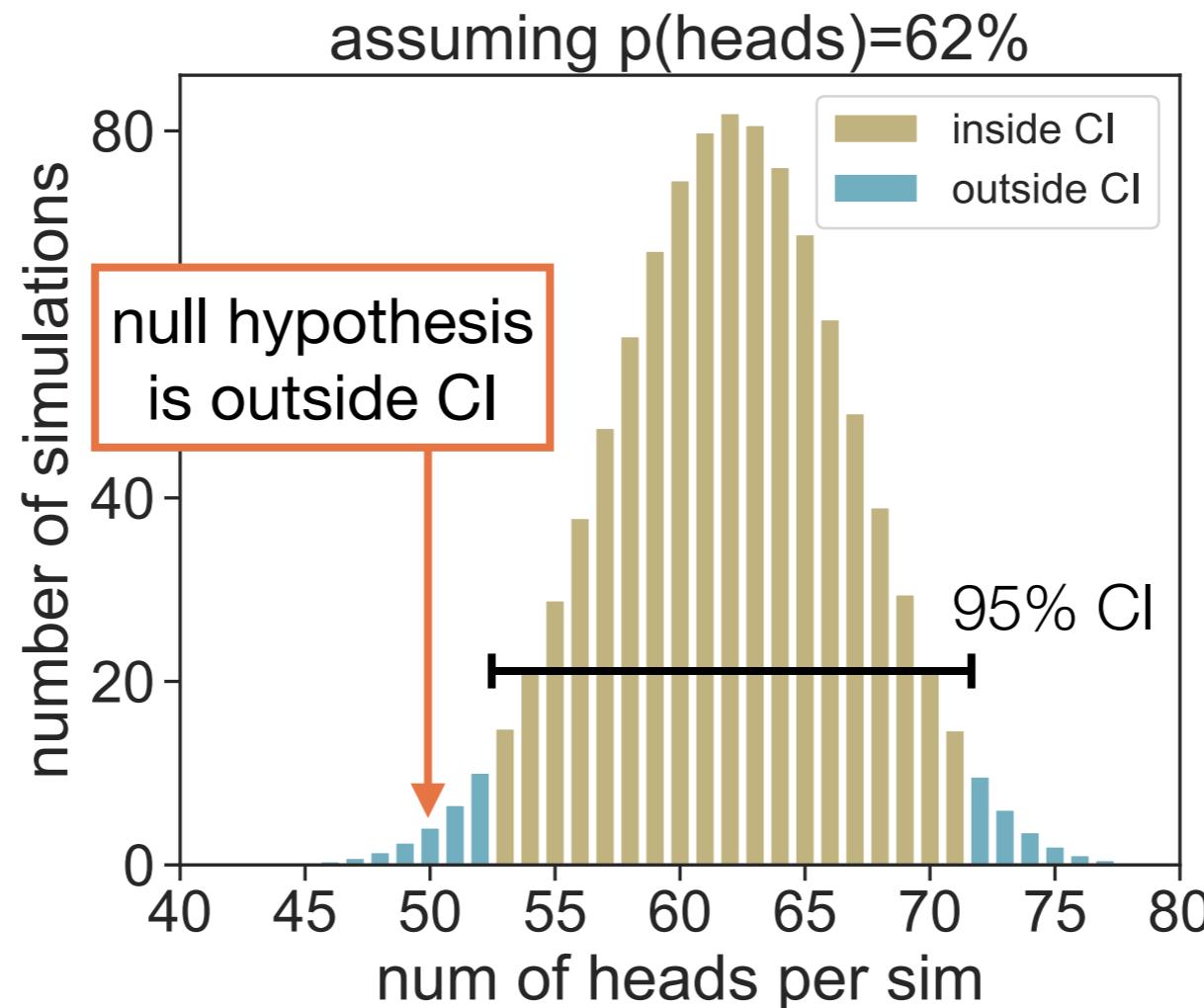


We find that **p=0.0105** for the one-sided test.

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

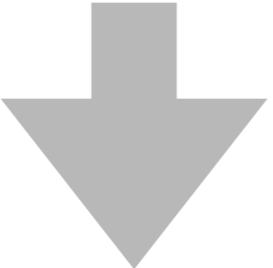
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**Step 1:** Specify a null hypothesis.

**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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Iron Law of Frequentist Statistics:**

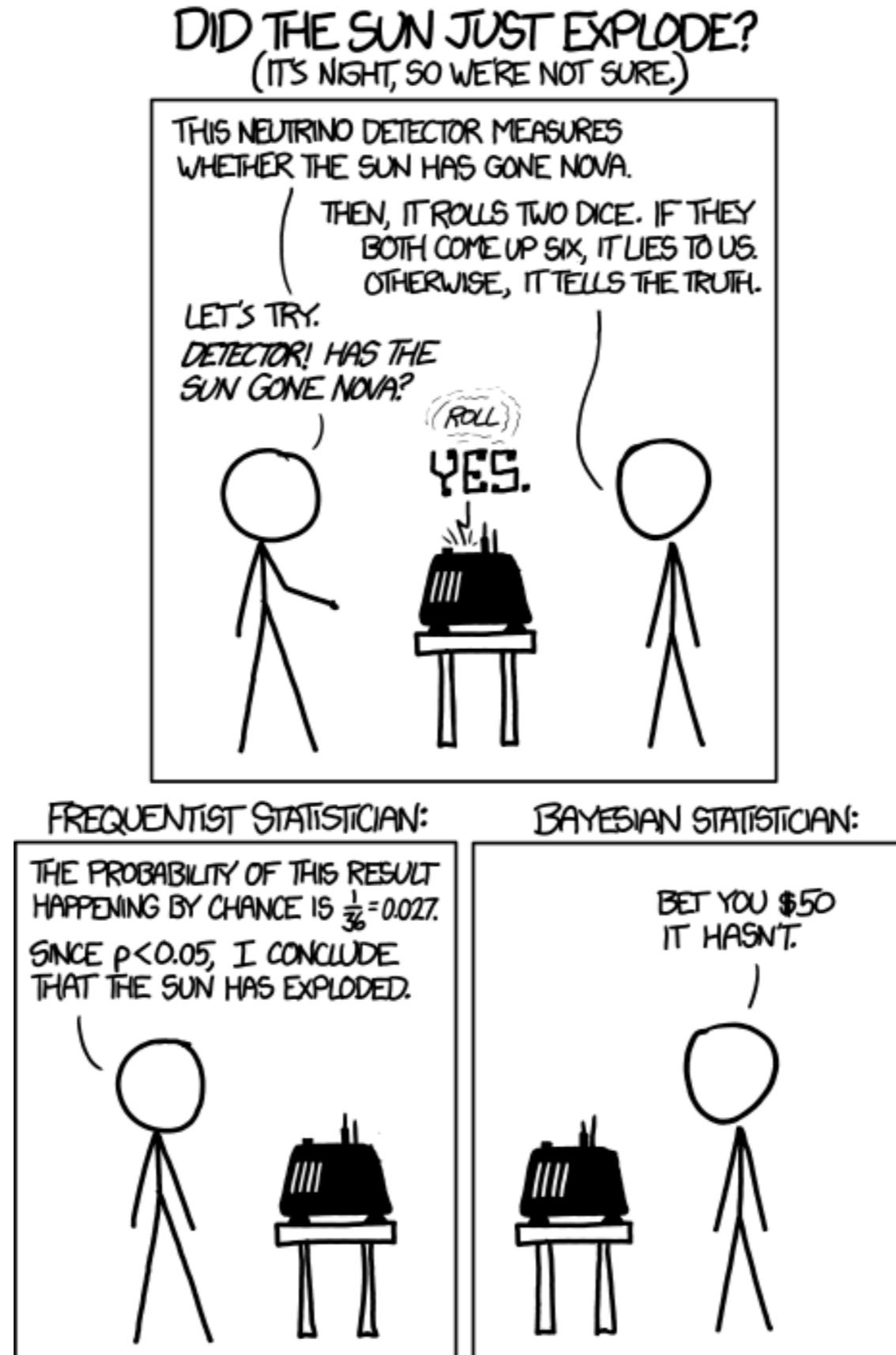
Never compute the probability of a hypothesis.

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

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

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

## Exercise: supernova

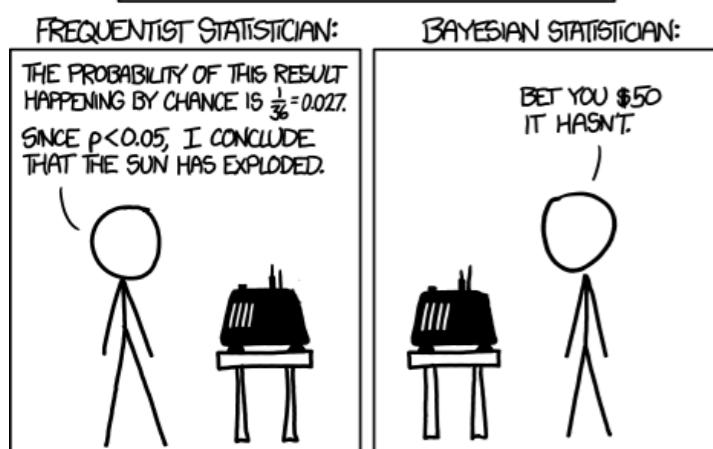
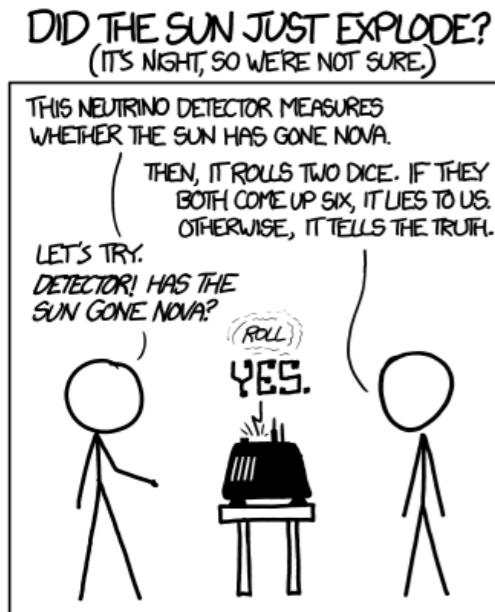


## Exercise: supernova

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	Purple	Tall	Yellow	Round	Green	Inflated (full)	Axial
Recessive Trait	White	Short	Green	Wrinkled	Yellow	Constricted (flat)	Terminal
			3/4 Yellow	3/4 Round			
			1/4 Green	1/4 Wrinkled			

## 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

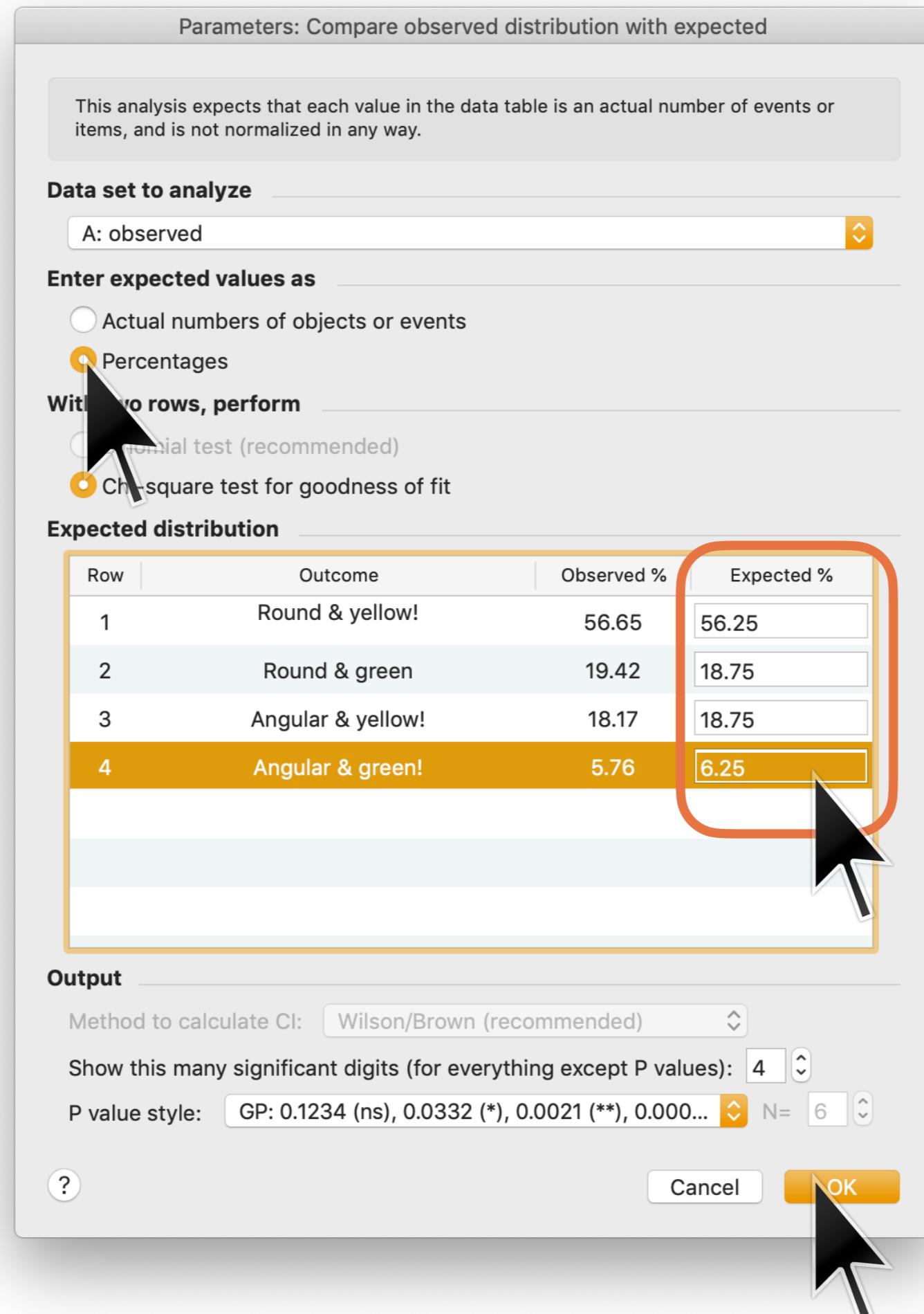
**Data:** number of observations in each category

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

**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	Round & yellow	315	
2	Round & green	108	
3	Angular & yellow	101	
4	Angular & green	32	
5	Title		
6	Title		
7	Title		
8	Title		
9	Title		
10	Title		
11	Title		
12	Title		
13	Title		
14	Title		



peas.pzfx — Edited

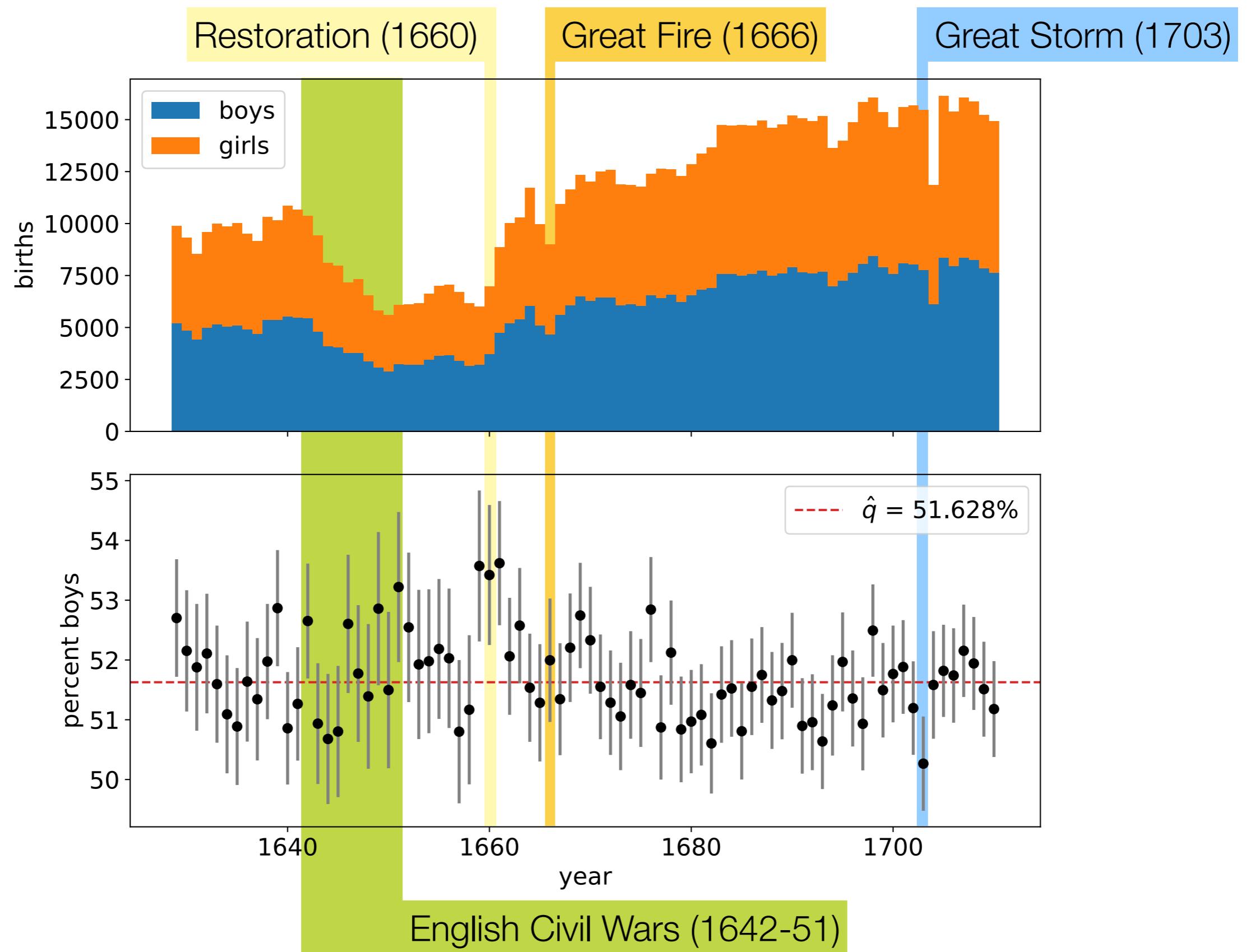
O vs. E

	1 Table analyzed	Data 1
	2 Column analyzed	Column A
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	
10		
11 Outcome	Expected #	Observed #
12 Round & yellow	312.8	315
13 Round & green	104.3	108
14 Angular & yellow	104.3	101
15 Angular & green	34.75	32
16 TOTAL	556.0	556.0
17		

**data fits expectations**

## **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)

	sex	
	male	female
year		
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  
DOF =  $nm - m - n + 1$   
where

$m$  = number of possible values for  $A$   
 $n$  = number of possible values or  $B$

arbuthnot.pzfx

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
1	1629		5218	4683					
2	1630		4858	4457					
3	1631		4422	4102					
4	1632		4994	4590					
5	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					

## 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

## Parameters: Chi-square (and Fisher's exact) test

Main Calculations Options

### Effect sizes to report

Relative Risk

Used for prospective and experimental studies

Difference between proportions (attributable risk) and NNT

Used for prospective and experimental studies

Odds ratio

Used for retrospective case-control studies

Sensitivity, specificity and predictive values

Used for diagnostic tests

### Method to compute the P value

Fisher's exact test

Yates' continuity corrected chi-square test

Chi-square test

Chi-square test for trend

Looking for the z test to compare proportions? Choose the chi-square test (with or without the Yates' correction). The chi-square and z tests are equivalent.



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					