

Grandària Mostral

Quan és prou gran?

Unitat d'Estadística I Bioinformàtica

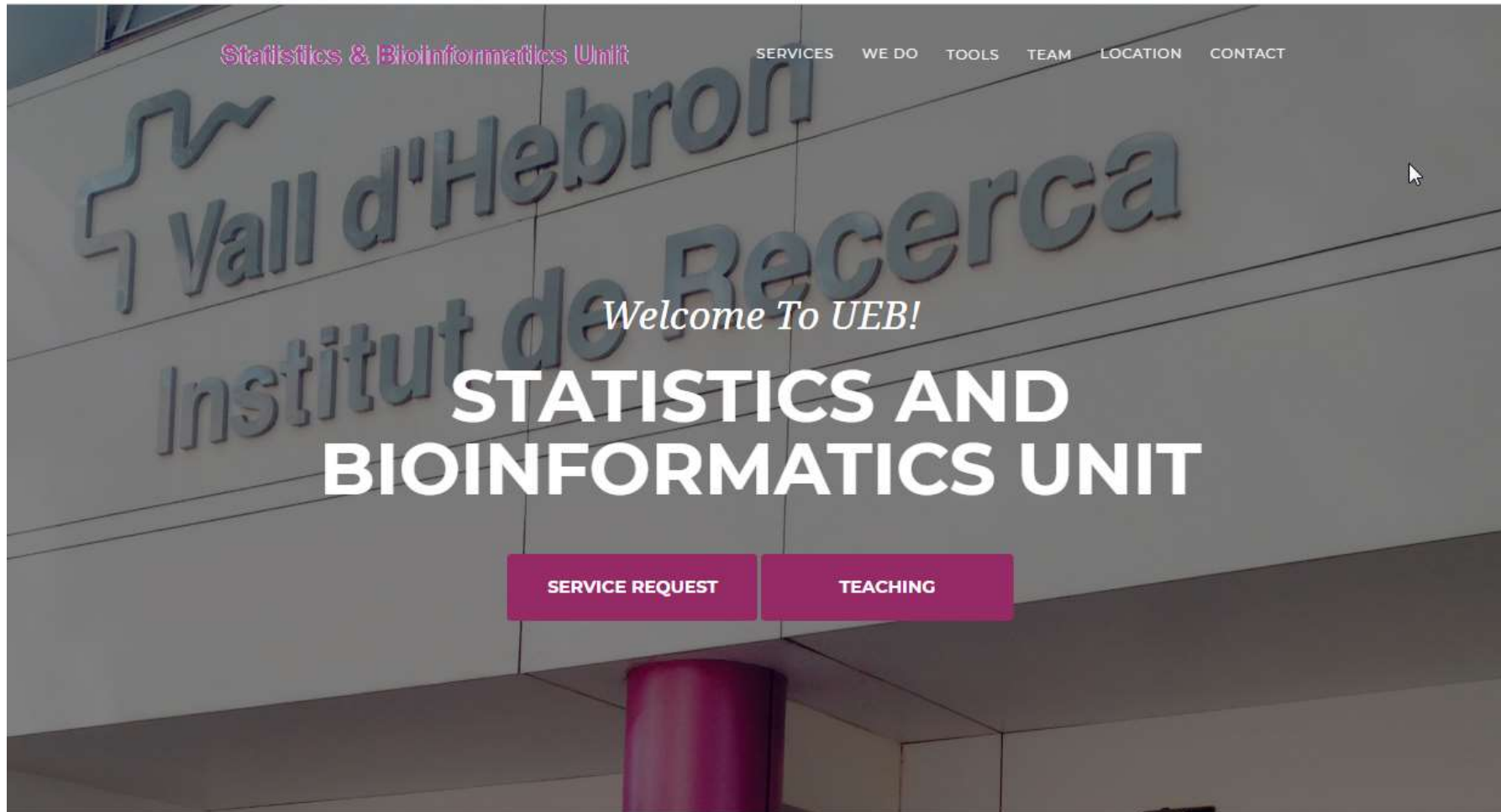
28 de Gener de 2022



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TECHNICAL NOTE

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When is enough, enough? Understanding and solving your sample size problems in health services research

Victoria Pye*, Natalie Taylor, Robyn Clay-Williams and Jeffrey Braithwaite

The usual situation when
a researcher ask a
statistician about sample
size for a research study

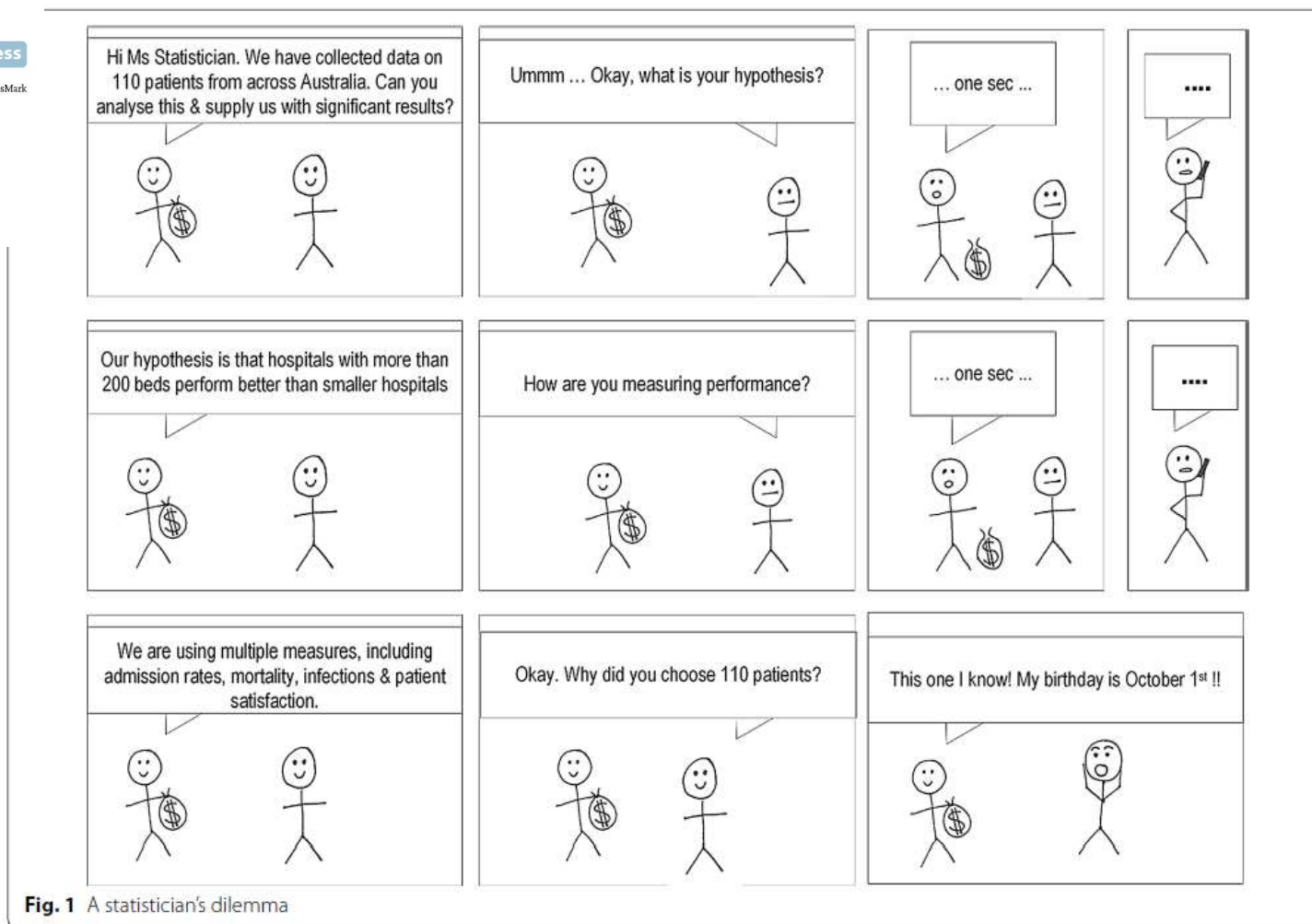
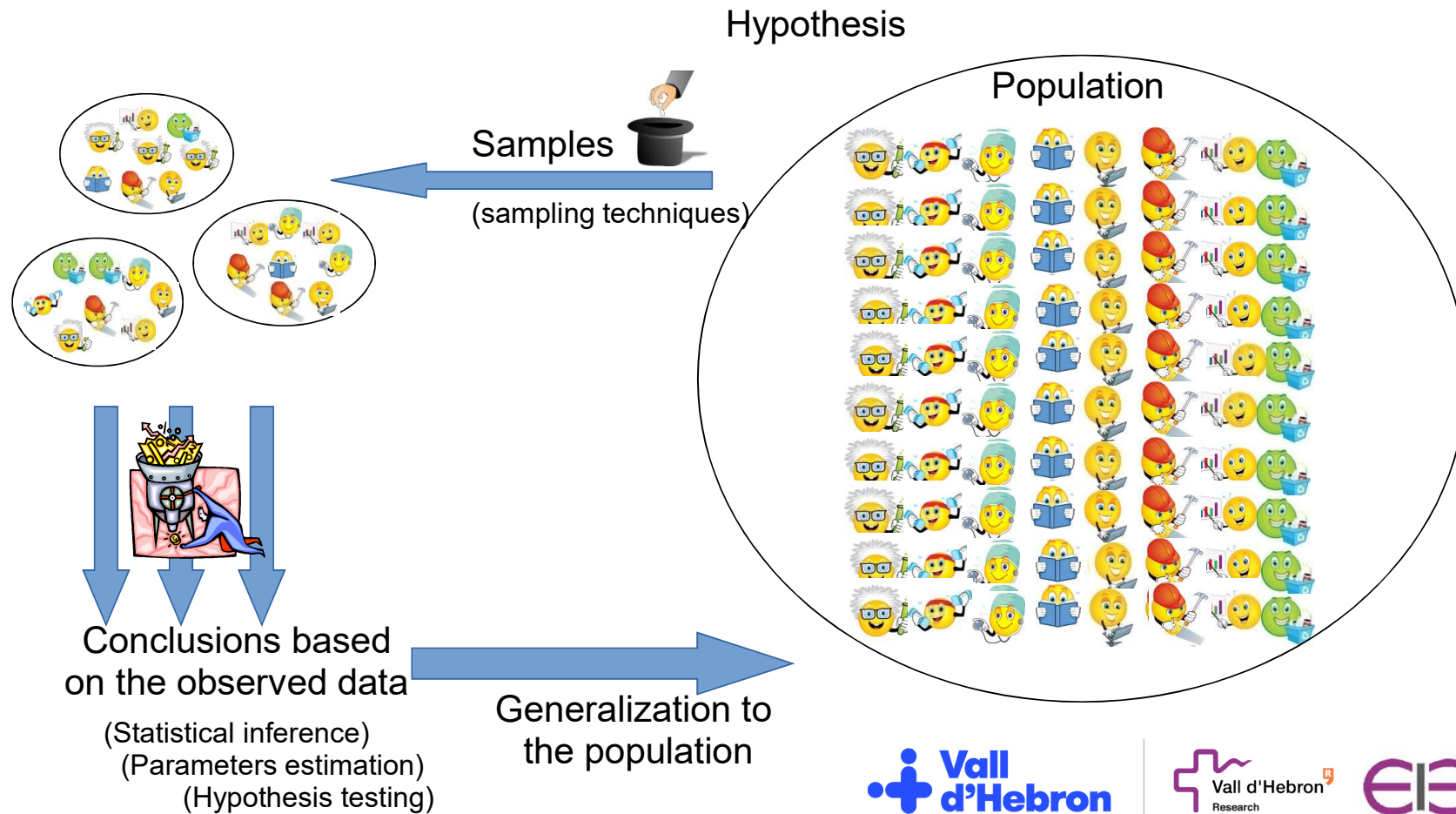


Fig. 1 A statistician's dilemma

The objective of statistical inference



Billion dollar Question

How many subjects do we need for our Study



Before calculating sample size

- Have a Clear Research Question
- Selected the design of the study (Clinical trial, Observational,..)
- Identify the outcomes or end-points
- Know how variables are going to be measured (proportions, ordinal, continuous)
- How many subjects you can afford
- Have a clear idea of the expected results

Too few subjects

- You will not be able to answer the question
- Potentially Not ethical



Too many subjects

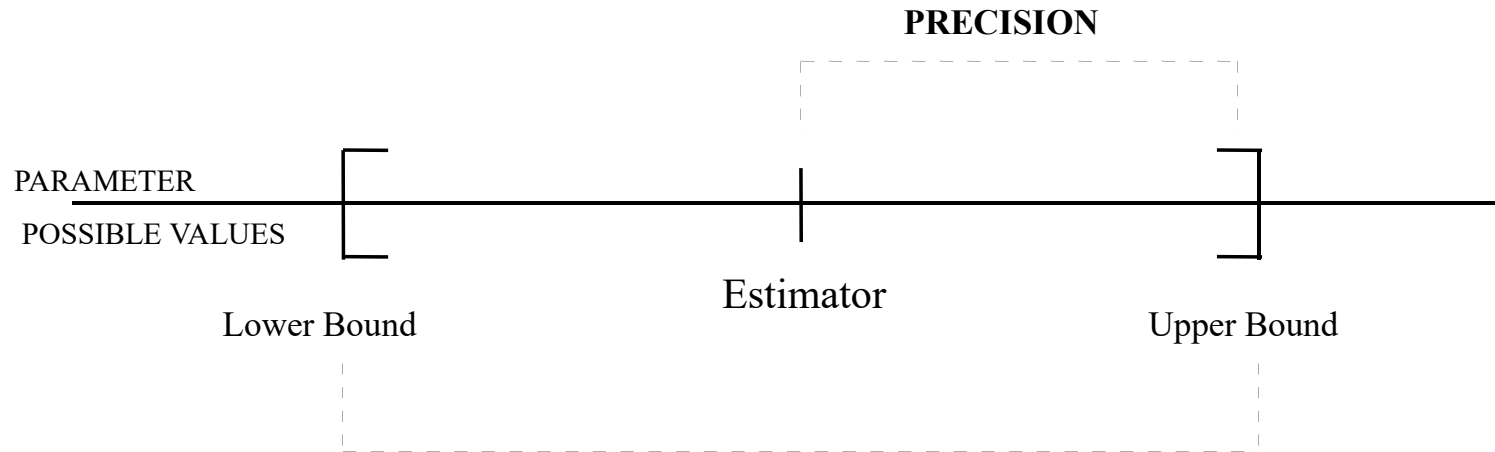
- Waste of resources
- Give a harmful treatment to patients
- Identify irrelevant treatment effects “significant”
- Potentially Not ethical



Before discussing sample size calculations there are several things to keep in mind

- Type of calculations depend on study goal.
 - Estimation
 - Testing
- Preliminary concepts to be used
 - Standard error of an estimator
 - Confidence interval
 - Hypothesis testing
 - Type I error
 - Power of a test ($1-\beta$)

Sample size based on Confidence Intervals



Values in which we are confident that real population parameter is inside
With a prefixed confidence level (Usually 95%)

$$\text{Estimator} \pm \text{Coef.}_{1-\alpha/2} \times \text{Standard Error}$$

Standard error of the mean

A measure of how variable is the sample mean when computed in all samples of size n

Standard deviation of the distribution of sample mean

$$\text{standard error} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \approx \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Standard error of a proportion

The standard error of a proportion is computed similarly to the SEM.

Instead of the standard deviation it uses the population proportion in the formula

If p is not known the estimated proportion is used

$$\text{standard error} = \sqrt{\frac{p \cdot (1 - p)}{n}} \cong \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p} \cdot (1 - \hat{p})}{n}}$$

Formulas for confidence intervals

Data normally distributed
Population variance known
(unrealistic assumption)

$$\bar{X}_n - z_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu \leq \bar{X}_n + z_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Population variance unknown, estimated by sample variance

$$\bar{X}_n - t_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu \leq \bar{X}_n + t_{1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Data: Counts of presence or absence of an event
Sample must be “big enough”

$$\hat{p} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}\hat{q}}{n}}; \quad n \geq 30, n\hat{p} \geq 5, n\hat{q} \geq 5$$

$Z_{1-\alpha/2}$ are quantiles of standard Normal $N(0,1)$ distribution

$1 - \alpha$	0,90	0,95	0,99
$Z_{1-\alpha/2}$	1,64	1,96	2,58

Sample SIZE for mean

$$\text{Precision} = z_{1-\alpha/2} * ee = z_{1-\alpha/2} * \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$n = \frac{z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 \sigma^2}{\text{precision}^2}$$

- If interval range is **10** (precision =10/2=5)
- Confidence level is **95%**
- Standard deviation is **20**

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 20^2}{5^2} = 62$$



Calculadora de Grandària Mostral GRANMO

Versió 7.12 Abril 2012

Català

Castellano

English

Mitjanes : Estimació Poblacional

Nivell de confiança: ☒ 0.95 ☐ 0.90 ☐ Altre

Població de referència (Intro => S'assumeix una població infinita):

Estimació de la desviació estàndard:

Precisió de l'estimació pel nivell de confiança seleccionat:

Proporció estimada de reposicions necessàries:

calcula

Neteja resultats

Neteja tot

Selecciona tot

Imprimir

20/01/2022 14:19:13 Estimació Poblacional (Mitjanes)

Una mostra aleatòria de **62** individus és suficient per estimar, amb una confiança del 95% i una precisió de +/- 5 unitats, la mitjana poblacional d'uns valors que es preveu que tinguin una desviació estàndard al voltant de 20 unitats. En percentatge de reposicions necessària s'ha previst que serà del 0%.

Proporcions

Mitjanes

Dos mitjanes independents

Mitjanes aparellades (repetides en un grup)

Observada respecte d'una de referència

Mitjanes aparellades (repetides en dos grups)

Estimació Poblacional

Anàlisi de la varianza

Potència d'un contrast

Altres

Sample size for proportion

$$\text{Precision} = z_{1-\alpha/2} * ee = 1.96 * \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}}$$

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 \hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{\text{precision}^2} =$$

- Assume precision is **5%** (Interval = $p \pm .05$)
- Confidence level is **95%**
- If it is known that p is around **12.5%**
- If p is unknown maximum sample size will be if **p=50%**

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 \cdot 125(1-.125)}{.05^2} = 168$$

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 \cdot 50(1-.50)}{.05^2} = 384$$



Calculadora de Grandària Mostral GRANMO

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Proporcions : Estimació Poblacional

Nivell de confiança: ☒ 0.95 ☐ 0.90 ☐ Altre

Població de referència (Intro ==> S'assumeix una població infinita):

Estimació de la proporció en la població:

Precisió de l'estimació pel nivell de confiança seleccionat:

Proporció estimada de reposicions necessàries:

calcula



Neteja resultats



Neteja tot



Selecciona tot



Imprimir

20/01/2022 14:24:07 **Estimació Poblacional (Proporcions)**

Una mostra aleatòria de **169** individus és suficient per estimar, amb una confiança del 95% i una precisió de +/- 5 unitats percentuals, un percentatge poblacional que es preveu que sigui al voltant del 12.5%. En percentatge de reposicions necessària s'ha previst que serà del 0%.

Proporcions

Dos proporcions independents

Observada respecte d'una de referència

Mesures aparellades (repetides en un grup)

Bioequivalència

Estimació Poblacional

Odds Ratio (Estudis de Casos-Controls)

Risc Relatiu (Estudis de Cohort)

Potència d'un contrast

Mitjanes



Altres



Desenvolupat per: **Jaume Marrugat**
Mantingut per: **Joan Vila**
Adaptació web: **Antaviana**

Els autors no es fan responsables de les conseqüències del seu ús.

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Barcelona, Spain



TAT
STATÍSTICA I
INFORMÀTICA

Sample size based on Hypothesis testing

Type I Error α

Probability of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when its true (5%)

Power $1 - \beta$ (Type II Error)

Probability of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when its false (80%, 90%)

Variability of the data σ^2

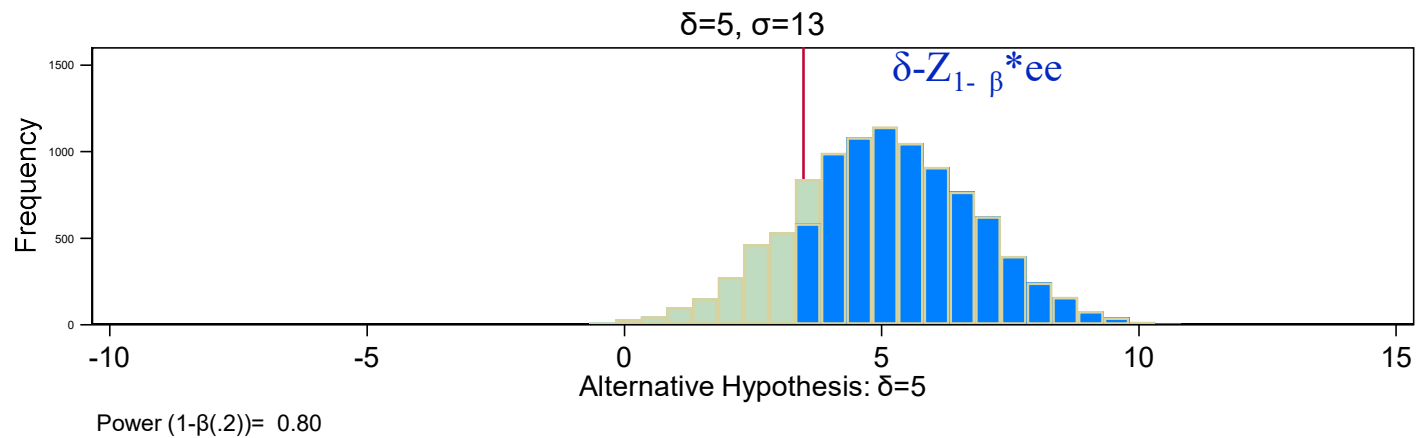
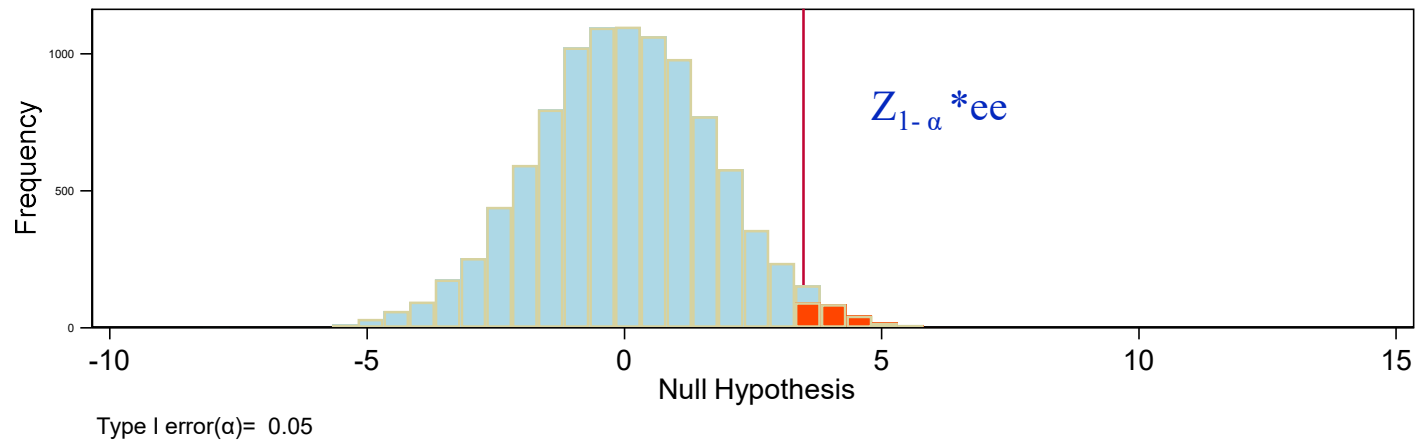
Variance of the data

Effect Size δ

Minimum detectable difference between the two groups to compare

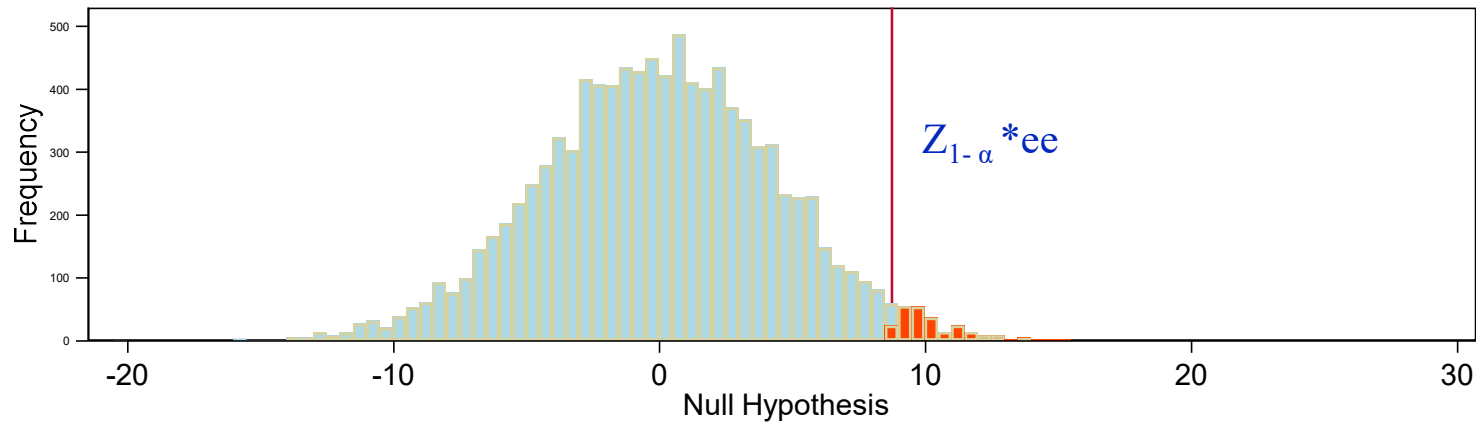
Sample size based on Hypothesis testing

N=107 por grupo

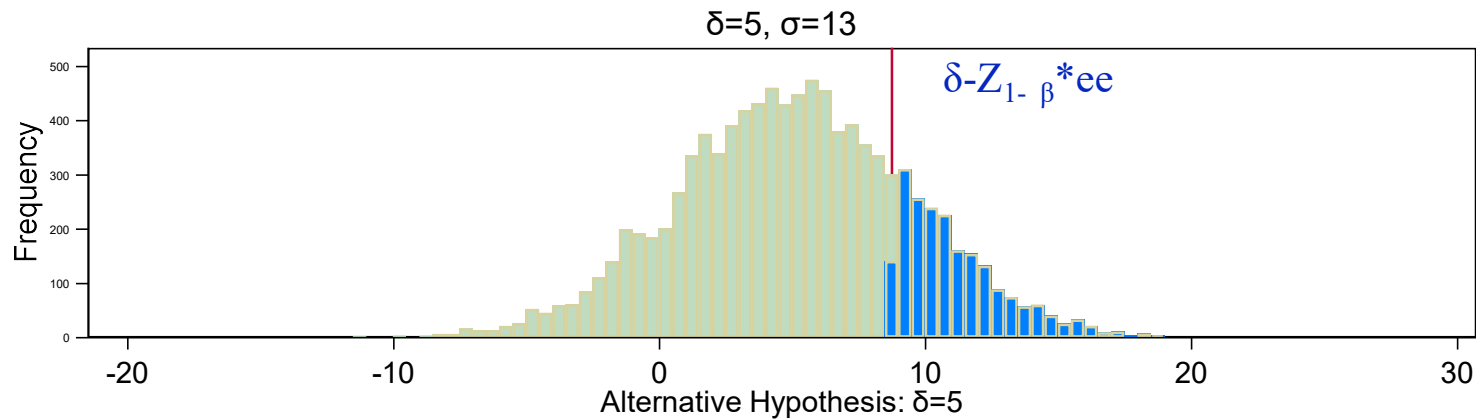


Sample size based on Hypothesis testing

N=17 por grupo



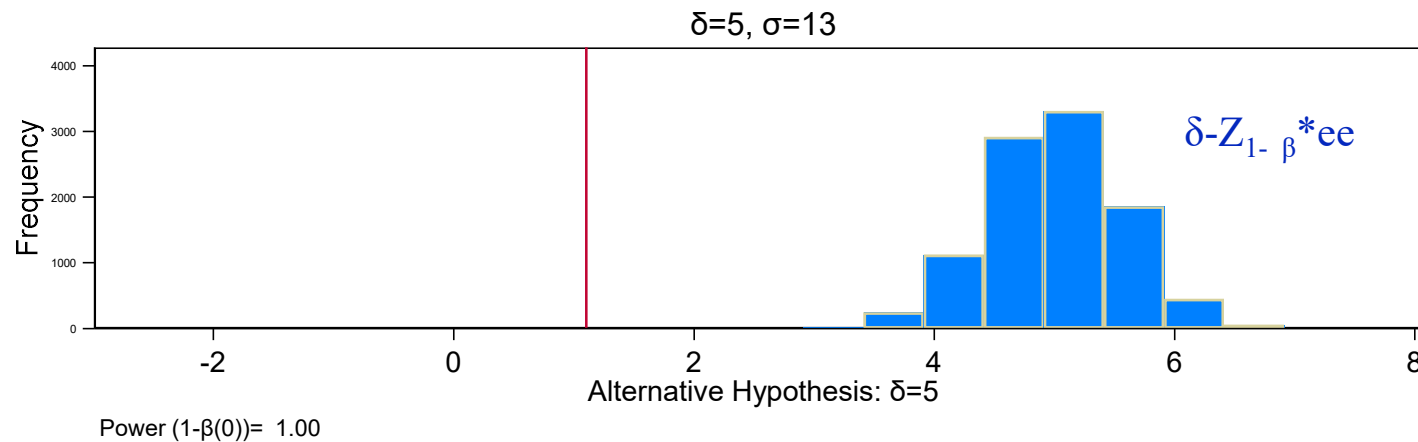
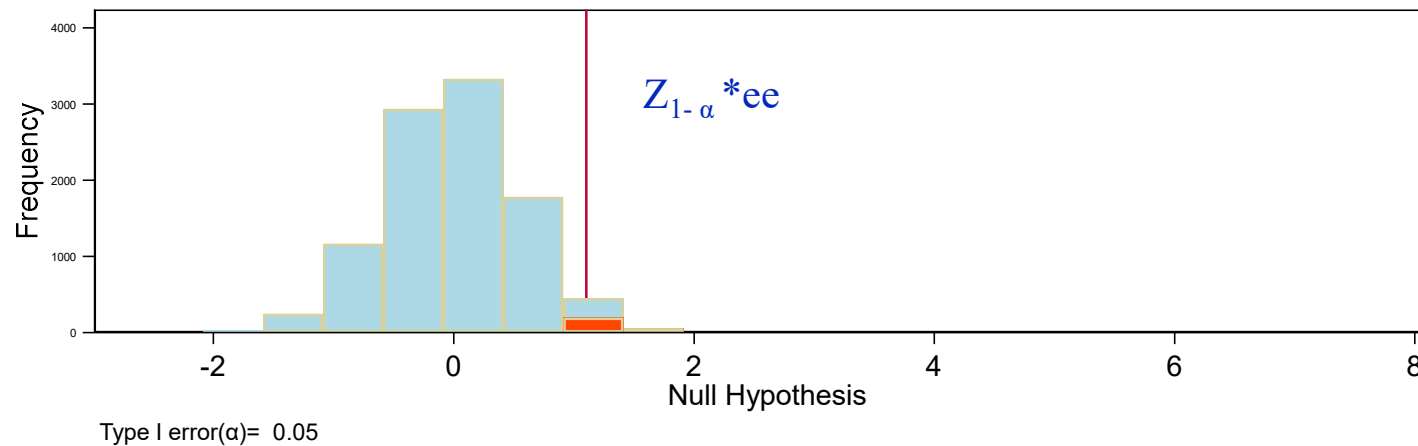
Type I error(α)= 0.05



Power ($1-\beta(.8)$)= 0.20

Sample size based on Hypothesis testing

N=1070 por grupo



Sample size based on Hypothesis testing

We want

$$Z_{1-\alpha} * ee = \delta - Z_{1-\beta} * ee$$

We know α, β and $ee = \sigma / \sqrt{n}$

$$n = \frac{2\sigma^2 (z_{1-\alpha} + z_{1-\beta})^2}{\delta^2}$$

Sample size for mean differences

Català

Castellano

English

Mitjanes : Dos mitjanes independents

Risc Alfa: ☒ 0.05 ☐ 0.10 ☐ Altre

Tipus de contrast: ☐ unilateral ☒ bilateral

Risc Beta: ☒ 0.20 ☐ 0.10 ☐ 0.05 ☐ 0.15 ☐ Altre

Raó entre el número de subjectes del grup 1 el grup 2:

Desviació estàndard comú:

Diferència mínima a detectar:

Proporció prevista de pèrdues de seguiment:

calcula Neteja resultats Neteja tot Selecciona tot Imprimir

21/01/2022 11:50:53 Dos mitjanes independents (Mitjanes)

Acceptant un risc alfa de 0.05 i un risc beta inferior al 0.2 en un contrast bilateral, calen **107** subjectes en el primer grup i **107** en el segon per detectar una diferència igual o superior a 5 unitats. S'assumeix que la desviació estàndard comú és de 13. S'ha estimat una taxa de pèrdues de seguiment del 0%.

Proporcions

Mitjanes

Dos mitjanes independents

- Mitjanes aparellades (repetides en un grup)
- Observada respecte d'una de referència
- Mitjanes aparellades (repetides en dos grups)
- Estimació Poblacional
- Anàlisi de la varianza
- Potència d'un contrast

Altres

Sample size for differences in proportions

Català

Castellano

English

Proporcions : Dos proporcions independents

Risc Alfa: ☒ 0.05 ☐ 0.10 ☐ Altre

Tipus de contrast: ☐ unilateral ☒ bilateral

Risc Beta: ☒ 0.20 ☐ 0.10 ☐ 0.05 ☐ 0.15 ☐ Altre

Proporció en el grup 1:

Proporció en el grup 2:

Raó entre el número de subjectes del grup 2 respecte del grup 1:

Proporció prevista de pèrdues de seguiment:

calcula Neteja resultats Neteja tot Selecciona tot Imprimir

21/01/2022 12:15:26 Dos proporcions independents (Proporcions)

Acceptant un risc alfa de 0.05 i un risc beta inferior al 0.2 en un contrast bilateral, calen **681** subjectes en el primer grup i **681** en el segon per detectar com estadísticament significativa la diferència entre dos proporcions, que per el grup 1 s'espera sigui de 0.1 i el grup 2 de 0.15. S'ha estimat una taxa de pèrdues de seguiment del 0%. S'ha utilitzat l'aproximació del ARCSINUS.

Proporcions

Dos proporcions independents

Observada respecte d'una de referència

Mesures aparellades (repetides en un grup)

Bioequivalència

Estimació Poblacional

Odds Ratio (Estudis de Casos-Control)

Risc Relatiu (Estudis de Cohort)

Potència d'un contrast

Mitjanes

Altres

Some formulas to calculate sample size

Problema	Datos necesarios	Tamaño muestral
Estimación de una proporción	<p>p=Proporción esperada o 0.50 d= precisión(mitad amplitud I.C.) e= error porcentual sobre verdadero parámetro $z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p>	$n = \frac{z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 p(1-p)}{d^2}$ $n = \frac{z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 (1-p)}{e^2}$
Estimación de una media	<p>σ^2=varianza esperada d= precisión(mitad amplitud I.C.) $z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p>	$n = \frac{z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 \sigma^2}{d^2}$
Diferencia de proporciones	<p>p_1=proporción grupo 1 p_2= proporción grupo 2 D=p_1-p_2 $z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α $z_{1-\beta}$= percentil N(0,1) para poder β p= (p_1+p_2)/2</p>	$n = \frac{\left[z_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{2p(1-p)} + z_{1-\beta} \sqrt{p_1(1-p_1) + p_2(1-p_2)} \right]^2}{D^2}$ $n = \frac{\left[z_{1-\alpha/2} + z_{1-\beta} \right]^2}{2(\arcsin \sqrt{p_2} - \arcsin \sqrt{p_1})^2}$ <p>para enfermedades de ocurrencia rara</p>
Diferencia de medias	<p>σ_1^2= varianza grupo 1 σ_2^2= varianza grupo 2 $z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α $z_{1-\beta}$= percentil N(0,1) para poder β D= diferencia de medias</p>	$n = \frac{\left[z_{1-\alpha/2} + z_{1-\beta} \right]^2 (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}{D^2}$

Some formulas to calculate sample size

Problema	Datos necesarios	Tamaño muestral
Estimación de una OR	<p>OR= Odds ratio que se estima</p> <p>p_2= Proporción de expuestos en los controles</p> <p>p_1= Proporción de expuestos en los casos</p> <p>e=amplitud relativa del C.I.</p> <p>$z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p>	$p_1 = \frac{OR p_2}{OR p_2 + (1 - p_2)}$ $n = z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 \frac{\frac{1}{p_1(1-p_1)} + \frac{1}{p_2(1-p_2)}}{\ln(1-e)^2}$
Estimación de un RR	<p>RR= Riesgo relativo que se estima</p> <p>p_2= Proporción de casos en los no expuestos</p> <p>p_1= Proporción de casos en los expuestos</p> <p>e=amplitud relativa del C.I.</p> <p>$z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p> <p>$z_{1-\beta}$= percentil N(0,1) para poder β</p>	$p_1 = RR p_2$ $n = z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 \frac{\frac{(1-p_1)}{p_1} + \frac{(1-p_2)}{p_2}}{\ln(1-e)^2}$
Contraste OR>1	<p>OR= Odds ratio que se estima</p> <p>p_2= Proporción de expuestos en los controles</p> <p>p_1= Proporción de expuestos en los casos</p> <p>$z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p> <p>$z_{1-\beta}$= percentil N(0,1) para poder β</p>	$p_1 = \frac{OR p_2}{OR p_2 + (1 - p_2)}$ $n = \frac{\left[z_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{2 p_2 (1 - p_2)} + z_{1-\beta} \sqrt{p_1 (1 - p_1) + p_2 (1 - p_2)} \right]^2}{(p_1 - p_2)^2}$
Contraste RR >1	<p>RR= Riesgo relativo que se estima</p> <p>p_2= Proporción de casos en los no expuestos</p> <p>p_1= Proporción de casos en los expuestos</p> <p>$z_{1-\alpha/2}$= percentil N(0,1) para significación α</p> <p>$z_{1-\beta}$= percentil N(0,1) para poder β</p>	$p_1 = RR p_2$ $n = \frac{\left[z_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{2 p_2 (1 - p_2)} + z_{1-\beta} \sqrt{p_1 (1 - p_1) + p_2 (1 - p_2)} \right]^2}{(p_1 - p_2)^2}$

Some tips

- Sample size goes up
 - for smaller α
 - For higher β
 - For smaller δ
 - For higher σ
 - For p closer to 50%
- Sample size is higher for proportions than means
- Sample size must be calculated a priori. Is not sensible to calculate power after
- SD can be calculated from 95% CI
- Upper-Lower limit of a CI is about 4 Standard Error and $SE=s/\sqrt{n}$
- Some % of survivors can be obtained from Kaplan-Meier survival curves and can be used for calculations
- Sample size is not an exact science and must be the product of calculations and reality

Effect size δ

Is the number measuring the strength of the relation between two (o more) group of comparison. It can be calculated from the data.

- **Mean difference** of a quantitative measure between two populations
- **Difference of proportions** of a dichotomous measure in two populations
- **Correlation coefficient** between two quantitative variatons
- **Regression coefficient** from a multivariable regression model
- **Risk difference, Relative Risk, Odds Ratio, Hazard Ratio**

It is preferred that the effect size measurement is standardized

- Cohen d

$$d = \frac{\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2}{s}$$

- Cohen w

$$w = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(p_{1i} - p_{0i})^2}{p_{0i}}}$$

- Cohen f^2

$$f^2 = \frac{R^2}{1 - R^2}$$

- Eta-squared (η^2)

$$\eta^2 = \frac{SS_{\text{Treatment}}}{SS_{\text{Total}}}$$

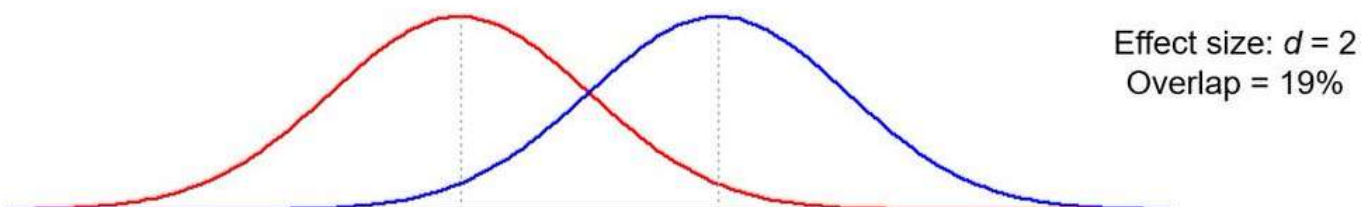
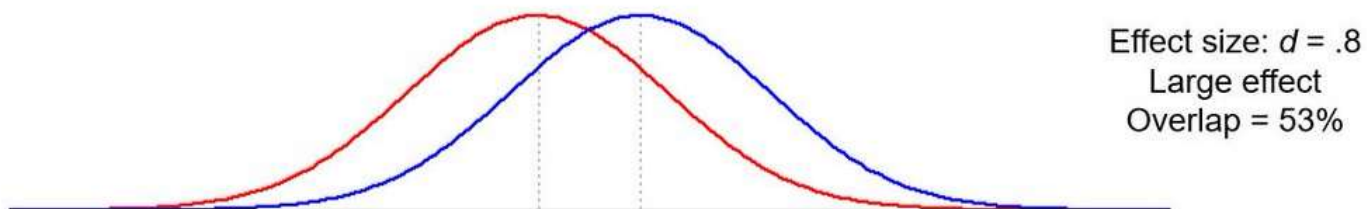
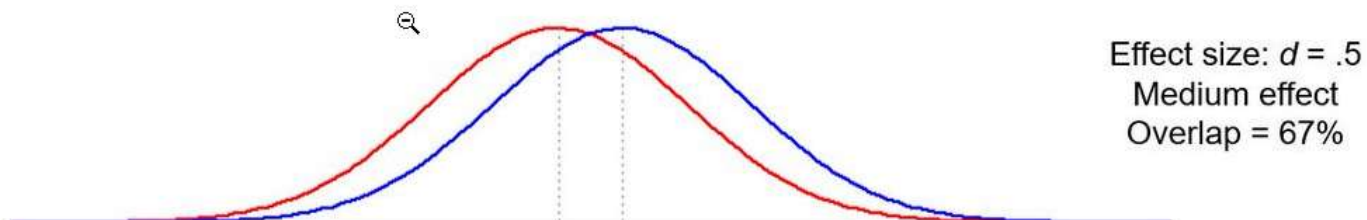
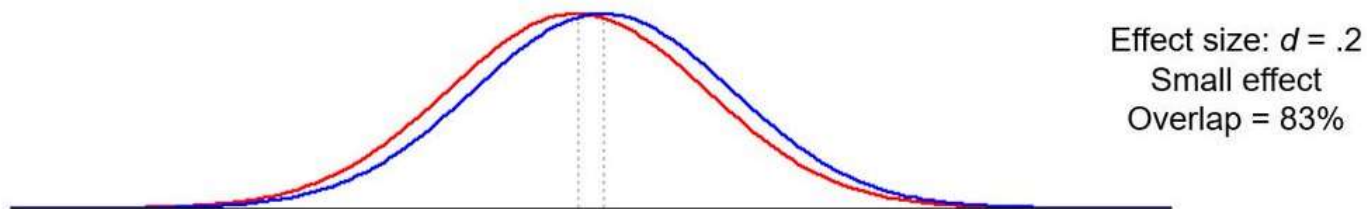
Table I Values of Effect Sizes and Their Interpretation

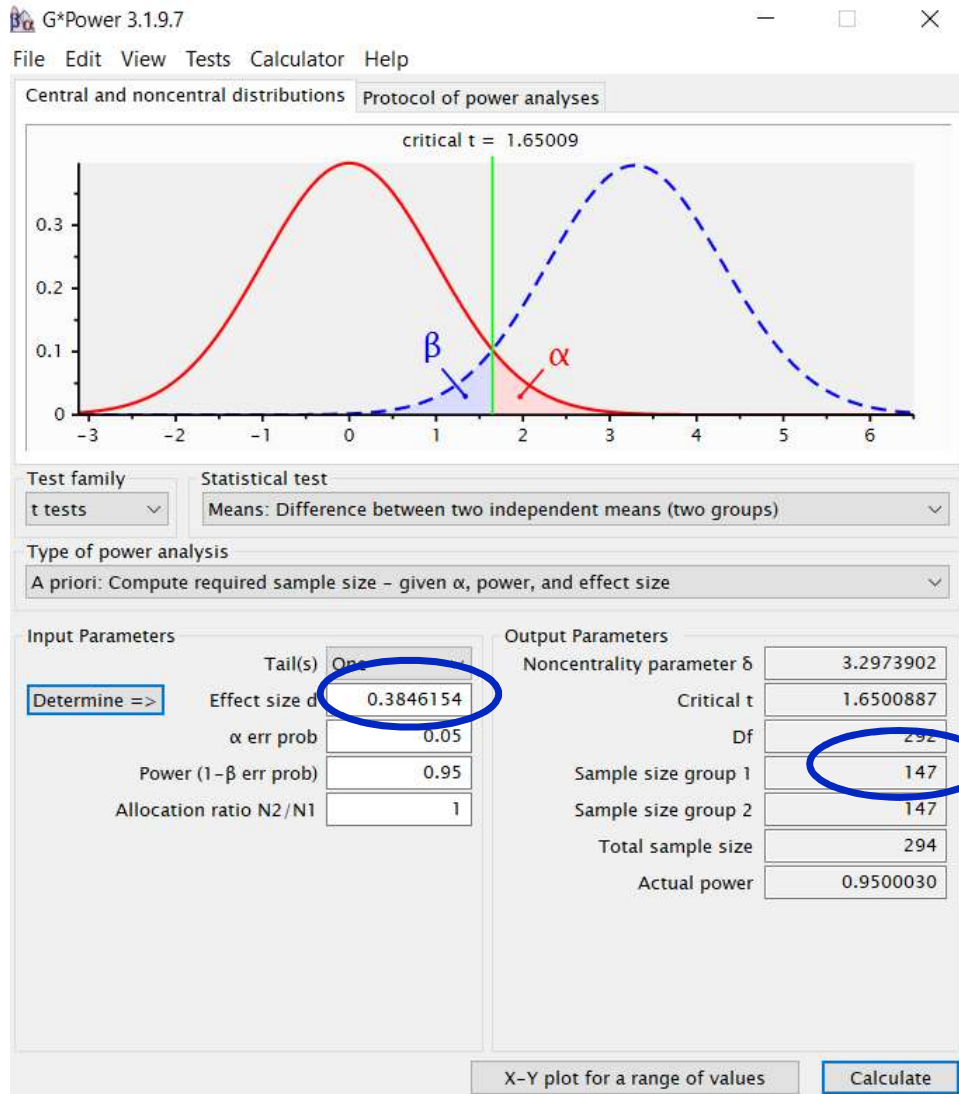
Kind of Effect Size	Small	Medium	Large
r	.10	.30	.50
d	0.20	0.50	0.80
η^2_p	.01	.06	.14
f^2	.02	.15	.35



Source: Cohen, J. (1992). A power primer. *Psychological Bulletin*, 112, 155–159. doi:10.1037/0033-2909.112.1.155

Understanding Effect Sizes





hhu Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf

G-Power

Allgemeine Psychologie und Arbeitspsychologie

HHU > Math.-Nat. Fakultät > Psychologie > Arbeitsgruppen > Allgemeine Psychologie und Arbeitspsychologie > G*Power

G*Power

Statistical Power Analyses for Mac and Windows

G*Power is a tool to compute statistical power analyses for many different t tests, F tests, χ^2 tests, z tests and some exact tests. G*Power can also be used to compute effect sizes and to display graphically the results of power analyses.

☐ $n_1 \neq n_2$

Mean group 1: 0

Mean group 2: 1

SD σ within each group: 0.5

☒ $n_1 = n_2$

Mean group 1: 0

Mean group 2: 5

SD σ group 1: 13

SD σ group 2: 13

Calculate Effect size d: 0.3846154

Calculate and transfer to main window

Close

R x64 4.1.0 R i386 4.1.0

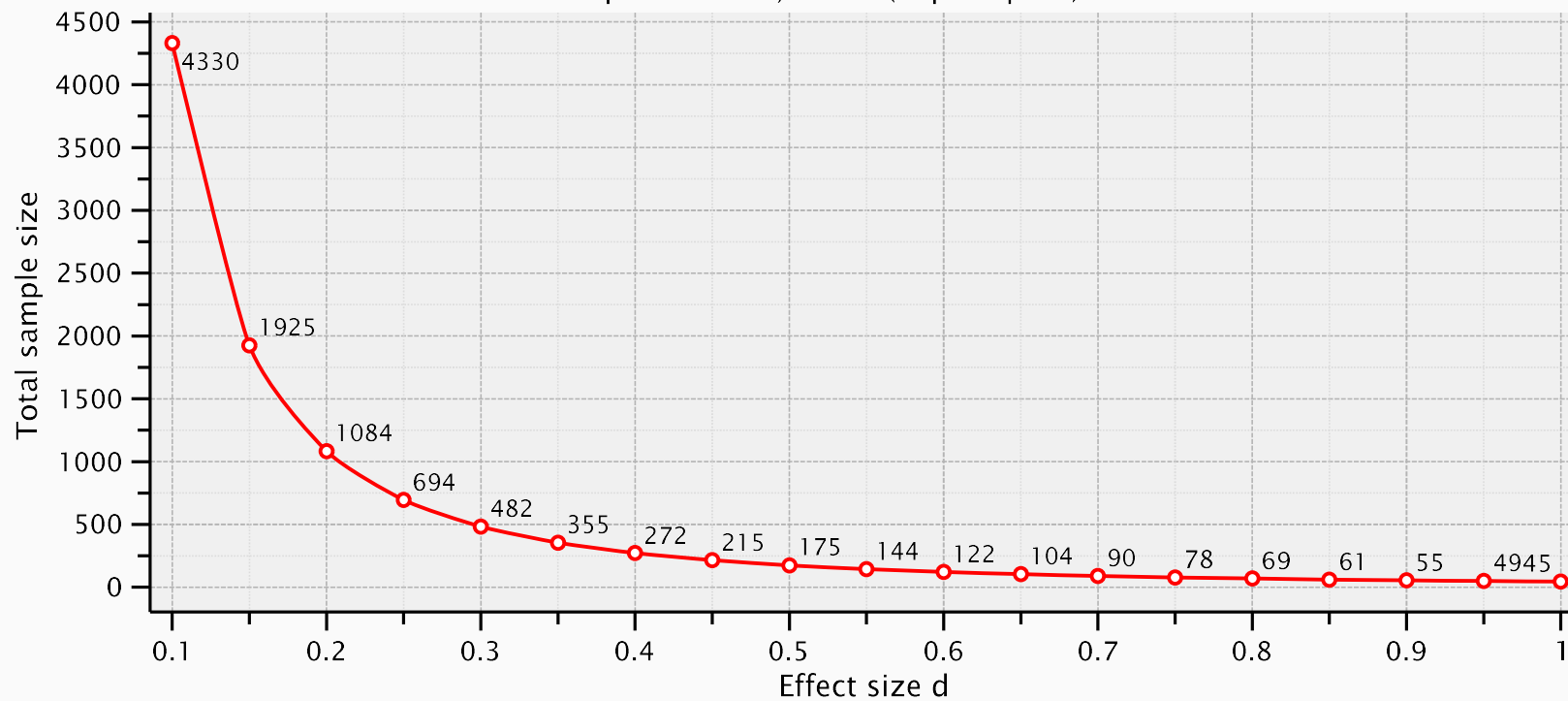
d'Hebron

Vall d'Hebron Research

UNITAT D'ESTADÍSTICA I BIOINFORMÀTICA

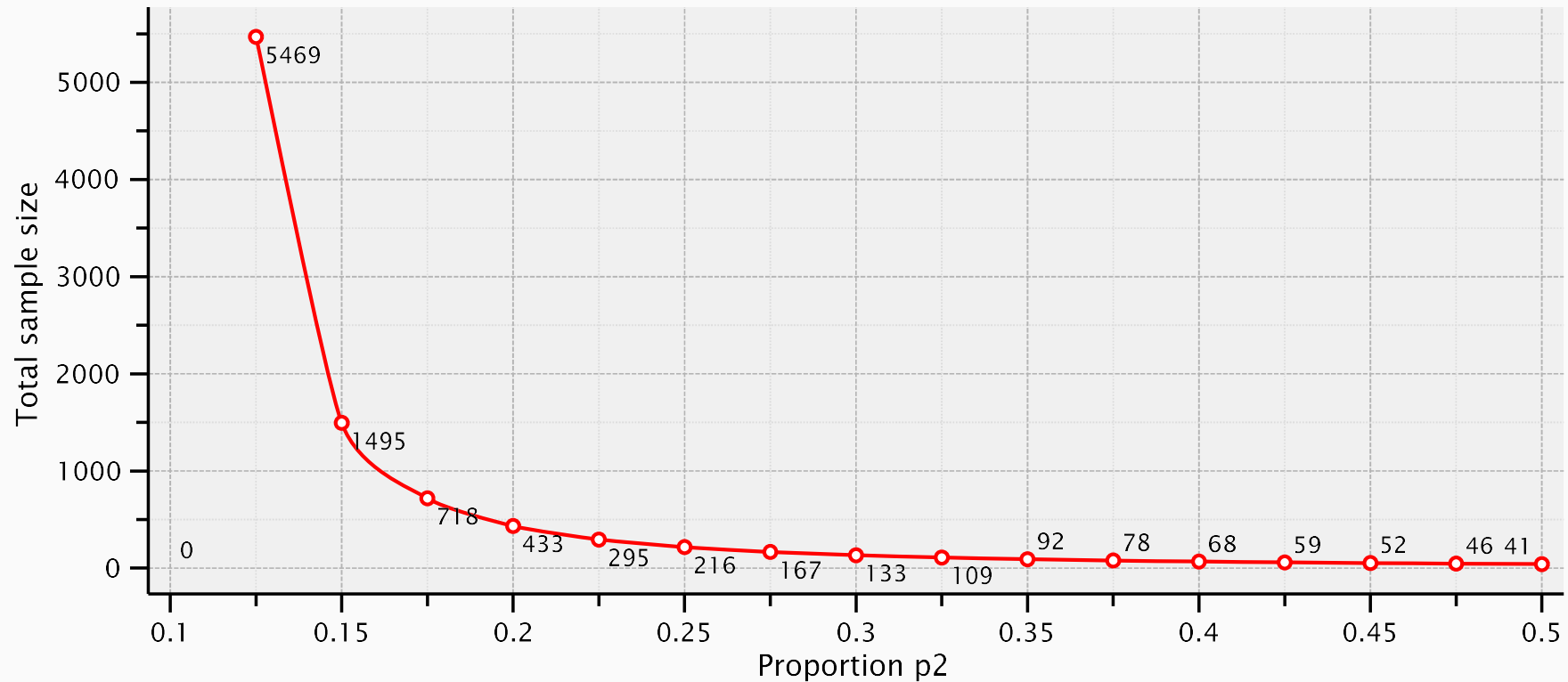
t tests – Means: Difference between two independent means (two groups)

Tail(s) = One, Allocation ratio $N2/N1 = 1$,
 α err prob = 0.05, Power ($1-\beta$ err prob) = 0.95

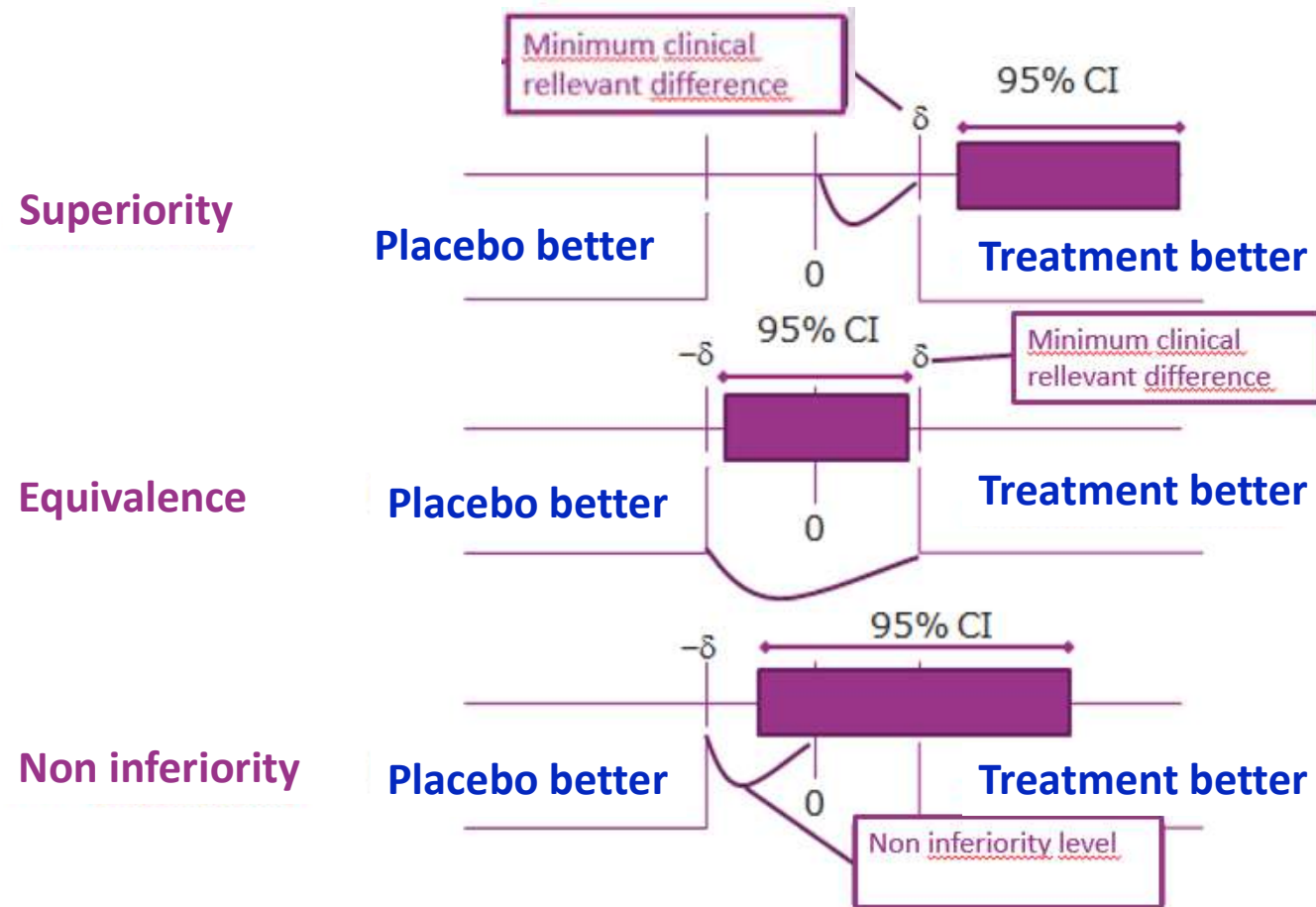


z tests – Proportions: Difference between two independent proportions

Tail(s) = One, Proportion $p_1 = 0.1$, Allocation ratio $N_2/N_1 = 1$,
 α err prob = 0.05, Power ($1 - \beta$ err prob) = 0.9



Equivalence and Non inferiority Trials



How to Calculate Sample Size in Randomized Controlled Trial?

Baoliang Zhong, MD

Sample size goes up

Table 1 Hypothesis testing of different design

design	null hypothesis	alternative hypothesis	test statistics
non-inferiority	$H_0:T-S=-\delta$	$H_a: T-S>-\delta$	$Z=(d+\delta)/sd$
equivalence	$H_{10}:T-S=-\delta$	$H_{1a}: T-S>-\delta$	$Z_1=(d+\delta)/sd$
	$H_{20}:T-S=\delta$	$H_{2a}: T-S<\delta$	$Z_2=(\delta -d)/sd$
statistical superiority	$H_0:T-S=0$	$H_a: T-S>0$	$Z=d/sd$
clinical superiority	$H_0:T-S=\delta$	$H_a: T-S>\delta$	$Z=(d-\delta)/sd$

T: new treatment; S: standard treatment; δ : clinically admissible margin of non–inferiority/equivalence/ superiority; d: the effectiveness difference between T and S; sd: the standard error of d; Z: Z obeys standard normal distribution.

REVIEW

Open Access

Through the looking glass: understanding non-inferiority

Jennifer Schumi* and Janet T Wittes

Sample size goes up

Table 2 Approximate sample sizes required for non-inferiority comparison of proportions

True proportion in active control	Non-inferiority bound using 10% margin	Approximate sample size per group assuming 1:1 randomization to new treatment and control required under:		
		Equal effects	5% benefit	10% benefit
0.1	0.09	19,200	8,725	5,050
0.2	0.18	8,500	3,900	2,250
0.3	0.27	4,970	2,260	1,300
0.4	0.36	3,200	1,450	825
0.5	0.45	2,100	1,000	550
0.6	0.54	1,440	640	360
0.7	0.63	930	405	225

Sample sizes calculated using Pass 2008 methods for non-inferiority tests of two independent proportions, using the Z statistic with continuity correction and pooled variance, with a target power of 90% and α level of 0.025.

Interim analysis

Innovative Trial Designs in GI Drug Development: Why Trials Succeed and Fail—A Brief Report From 2018 Digestive Disease Week

M. Scott Harris^{1,2,4} and Colin W. Howden³

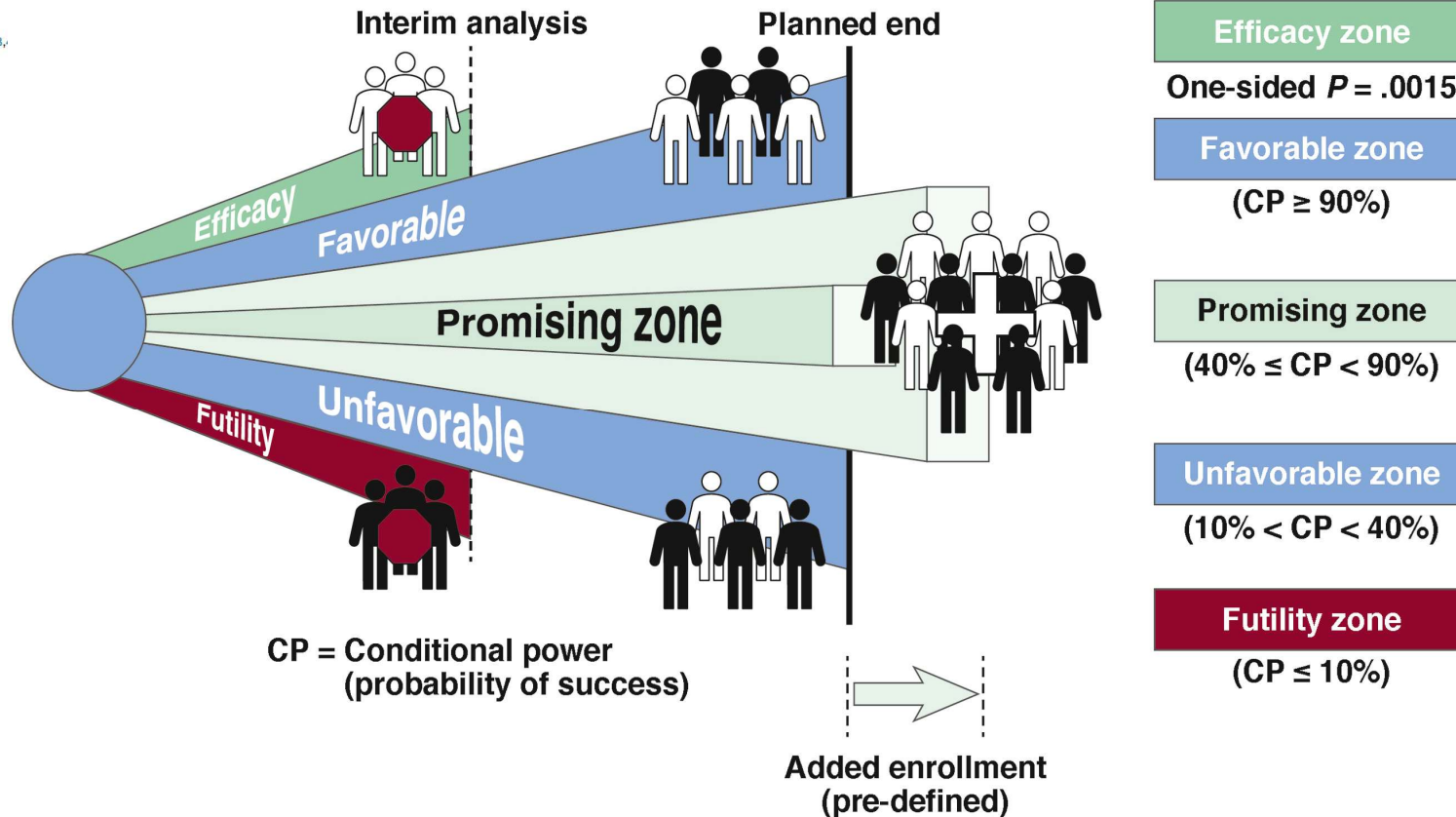
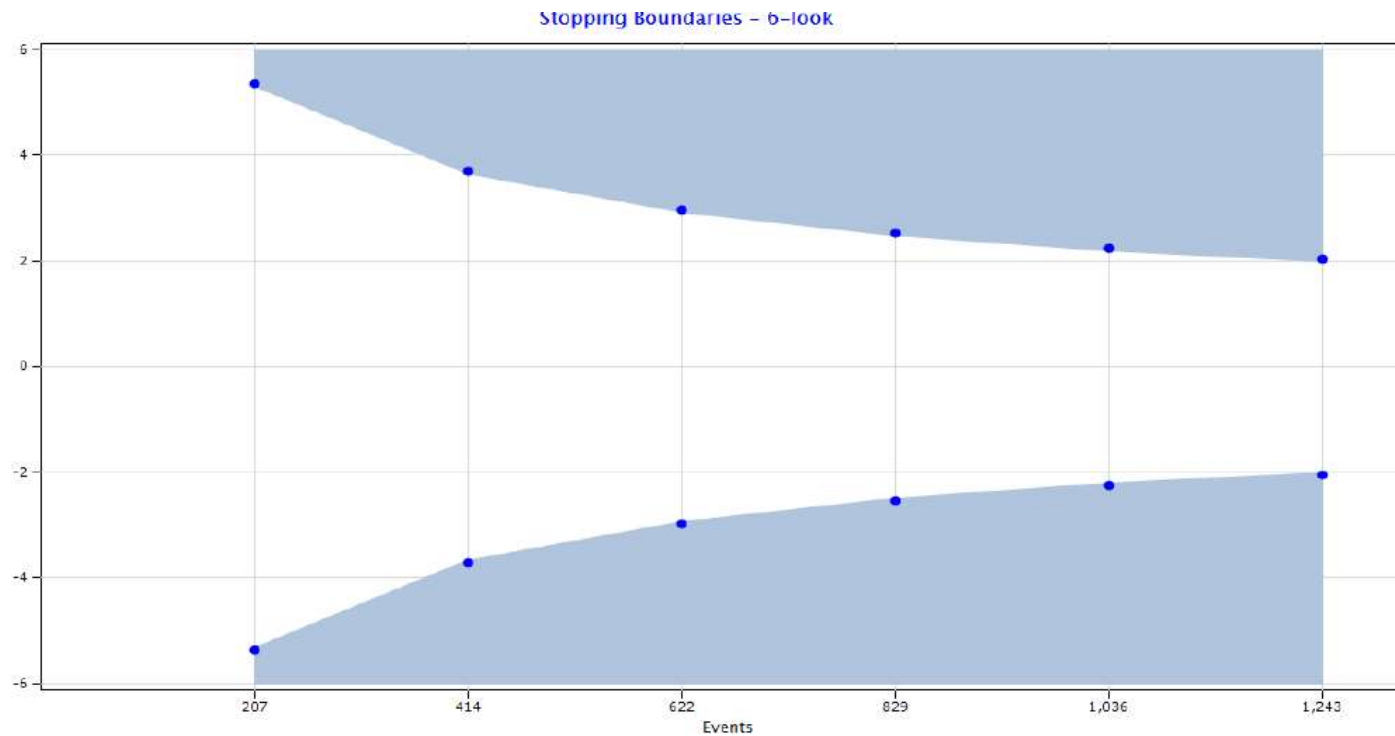


Figure 1 In blinded sample size re-estimation, the study commences with an optimistic sample size, assuming a large treatment effect. Patients can be added at IA if the conditional power (CP) falls in the promising zone, the example showing $CP \geq 40\%$ and $\leq 90\%$. A favorable ($\geq 90\%$) or unfavorable (10% to $< 40\%$) CP would result in no change in enrollment. The trial could also be stopped at IA for success ($P \leq .0015$) or futility (CP of $< 10\%$). The starting sample size of the blinded sample size re-estimate is typically smaller than grouped sequential design because of the flexibility of adding patients at the interim analysis (IA). The study is conducted as a same phase trial, because unlike a phase II/III 2-stage design, no change in dose, treatment, subpopulation, or study phase is implemented at the IA. Modified with permission from Mehta CR.⁵

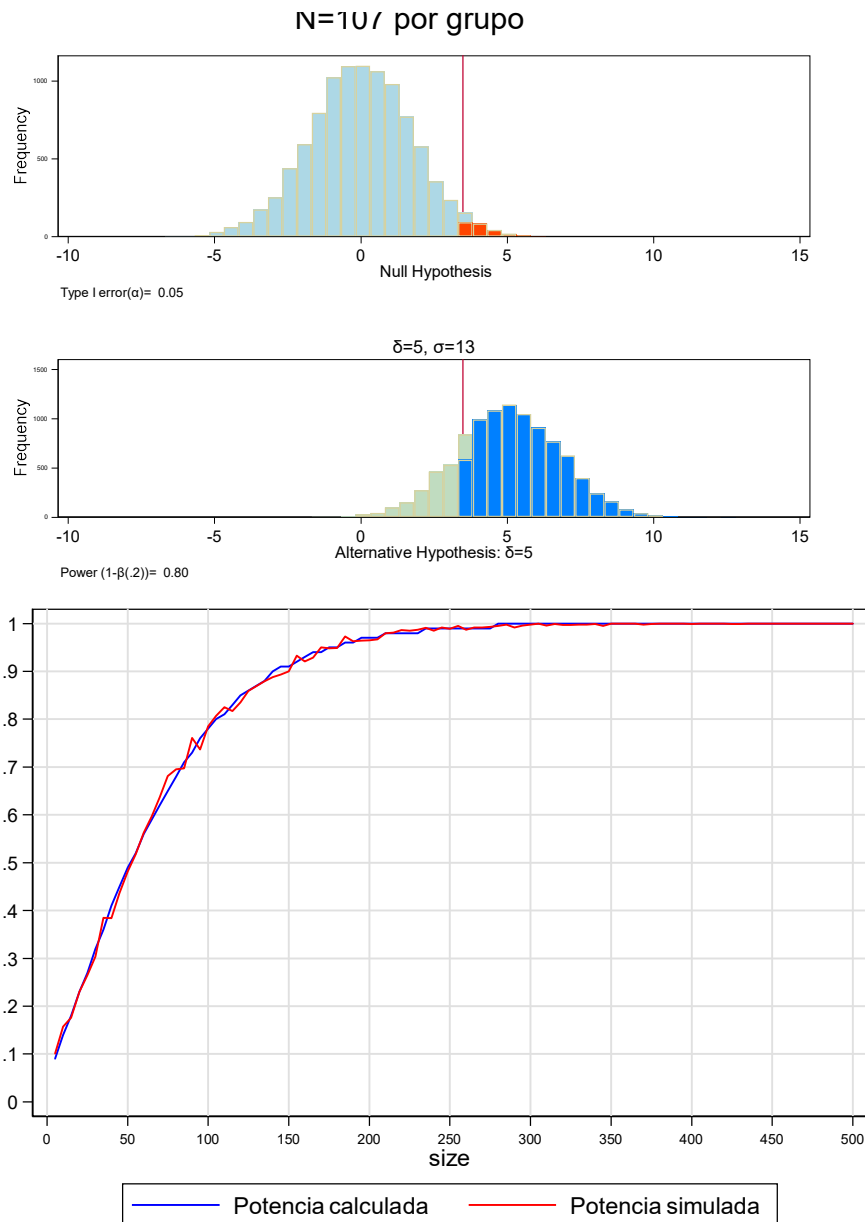
Six look sequential desing



The present and the future of sample size: SIMULATION

- **Simulation:** Computing intensive approach that mimics the data generating process to evaluate properties of a test statistic or confidence interval (Power)
- Model the population parameters of the study(Survival function, Regression models, etc. Lost of follow up , Attrition rate, Changes in treatments, etc.
- Sampling strategy and simulate sampling
- Analytics methods and analysis model :
- Performance of the model (power and precision).
- Calculated Distribution of the effects measurements
- Select sample size

Example Simulation mean difference



1. Select Parameters

$$\mu_0 - \mu_0 = 0$$

$$\mu_1 - \mu_0 = \delta = 5$$

$$\sigma = 13$$

2. Select series of sample size $n=10, 20, \dots, 490, 500$

3. Calculate ee=Standard error= $\sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n}}$

4. Sampling 1000 from Normal(δ, ee)

5. Calculate Critical value= $cv = z_{1-\alpha/2} \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n}}$

6. Calculate power as % of observations over cv

7. Plot sample size against power

Power Calculations for Survival Analyses Via Monte Carlo Estimation

David B. Richardson, PhD*

- Period follow up 20 years
- Two groups(x) equally distributed(1:1)
(sampling from binomial $p=0.50$)
- Generate I cohorts of size N
- Effect size ϕ were hazard ratio= $\exp(\phi)$
- Baseline risk exponential $\exp(\delta)$
- Disease status= $\log(h) = \delta + \phi x$
- Calculate proportional hazard
- Power= proportion of p-values less than .05
for a big number of repetitions.

Example Simulation Clinical Trial

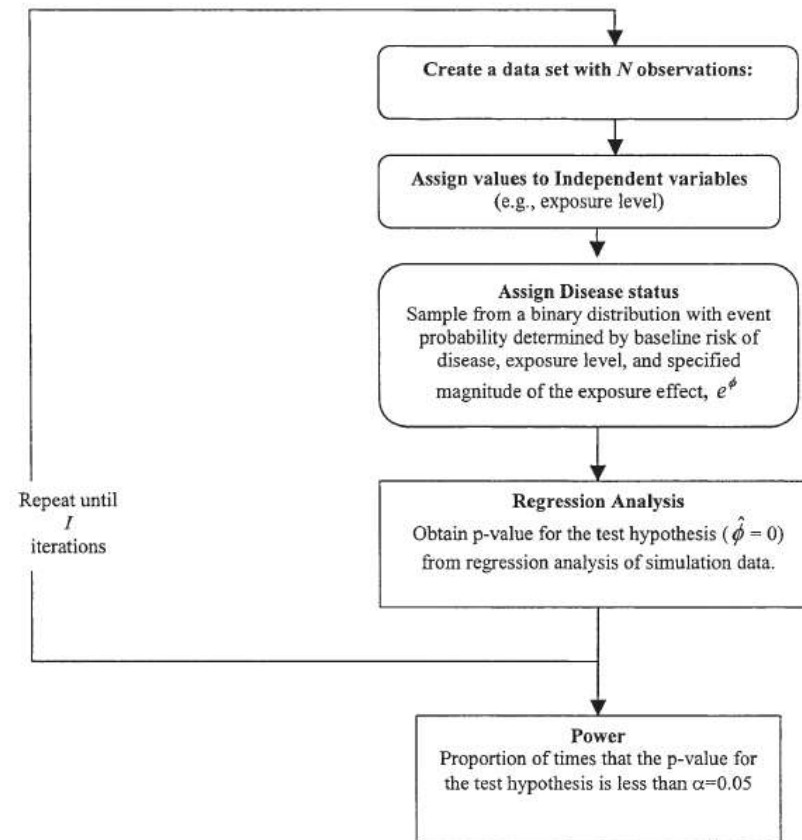


FIGURE 1. Flowchart of the process followed for Monte Carlo estimation of statistical power.

Power Calculations for Survival Analyses Via Monte Carlo Estimation

David B. Richardson, PhD*

Parameter	Example 1
Type I error probability (α)	0.05
Number of iterations (I)	1,000
Number of persons in study cohort (N)	2,500, 5,000, 10,000
Exposure effect (e^{δ})	1.01, 1.05, 1.10, 1.25
Length of follow-up (in years)	20
Exposure (x)	B (1,0.5)
Age at entry (in years)	n.a.
Length of employment (in years)	n.a.
Baseline annual mortality rate (e^{δ}) (e^{δ} in Example 2–4)	0.0084

TABLE II. Estimates of Statistical Power by Total Study Size and Exposure Effect Size for a Cohort Study Comparing Survival in Exposed Versus Unexposed Groups of Equal Size (Example 1)

Study size	Relative risk (hazard ratio)			
	1.01	1.05	1.10	1.25
2,500	0.04 ^a	0.07 ^a	0.15 ^a	0.62 ^a
	0.03 ^b	0.07 ^b	0.16 ^b	0.63 ^b
5,000	0.05 ^a	0.10 ^a	0.25 ^a	0.91 ^a
	0.03 ^b	0.10 ^b	0.27 ^b	0.90 ^b
10,000	0.05 ^a	0.16 ^a	0.50 ^a	1.00 ^a
	0.04 ^b	0.16 ^b	0.48 ^b	1.00 ^b

^aStatistical power estimated by Monte Carlo approach under conditions specified in Table I using the program in Appendix 1. (Values shown include estimates of power derived via Monte Carlo simulation.)

^bStatistical power calculated using the SSP internet based computer program for power and sample size calculations under conditions specified in Table I. (Values shown include estimates of power derived via the method described by Lachin and Foulkes.)

TECHNICAL NOTE

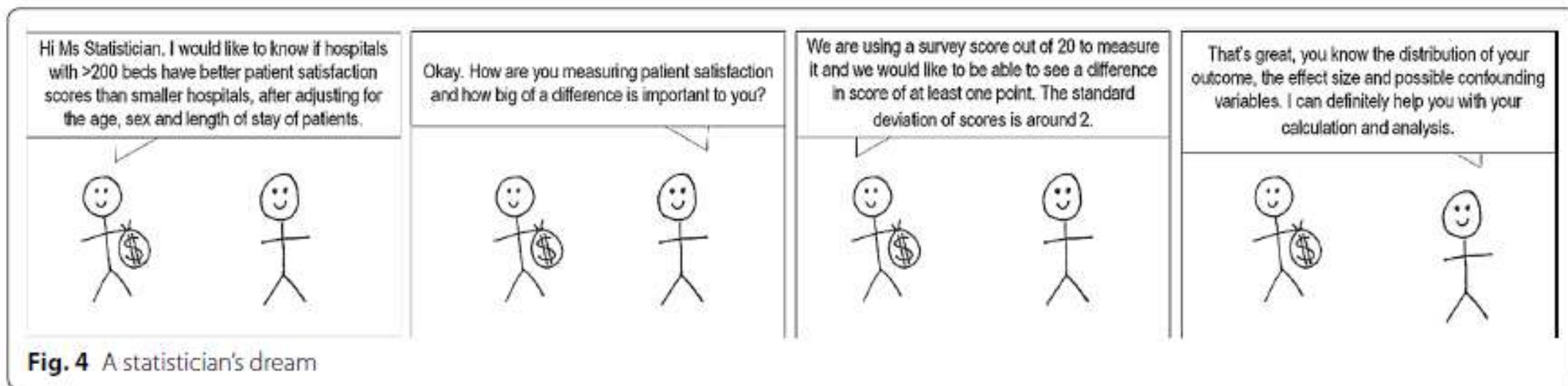
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When is enough, enough? Understanding and solving your sample size problems in health services research

Victoria Pye*, Natalie Taylor, Robyn Clay-Williams and Jeffrey Braithwaite

Next time you want to calculate a sample size
do not forget to know the **Distribution** of the
Outcome, the **Effect Size**, and the possible
Confounding variables



Summary

- Important step in designing in study
- Although for simple situation is easy to calculate sample size, when having several outcomes and covariates performing a sample size can be complicated
- Because sample size errors and costs related to performing a RCT is recommended to take caution and ask a for statistical advice
- Simulation is the actual option to perform sample size before starting a RCT

Gràcies \ Gracias \ Thank you

