

Statistics for Linguists with R – a SIGIL course

Unit 2: Corpus Frequency Data & Statistical Inference

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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

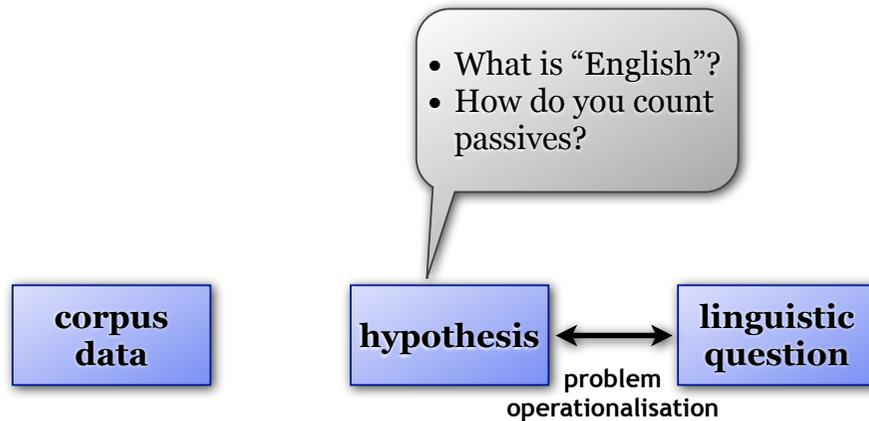
How many
passives are there
in English?

corpus
data

linguistic
question

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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 (⇔ 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)

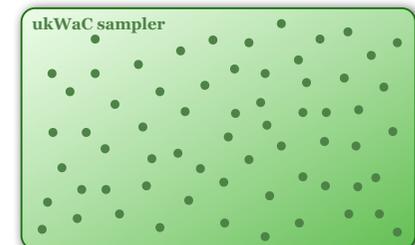
- ◆ Or **1 million**?



- BNC (90M words)

- ◆ Or **5.1 million**?

- ukWaC sampler (450M words)



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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?

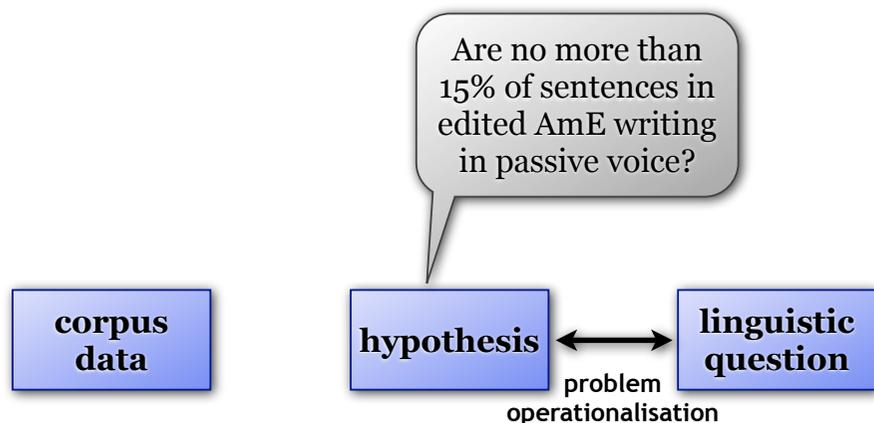
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How do you count passives?

- ◆ 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 π**

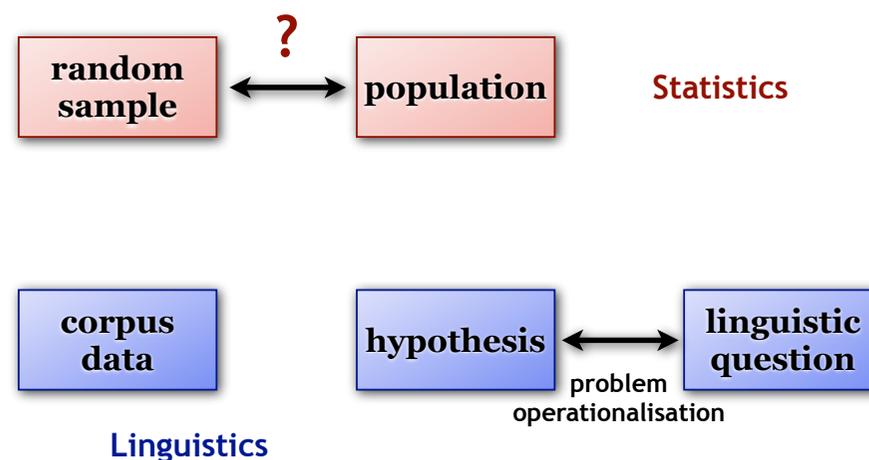
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From research question to statistical analysis



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From research question to statistical analysis



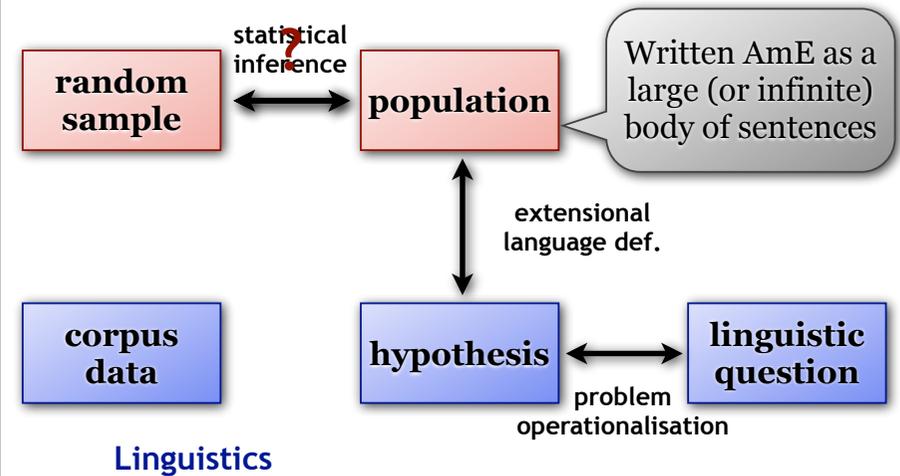
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Using inferential statistics

- ◆ 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



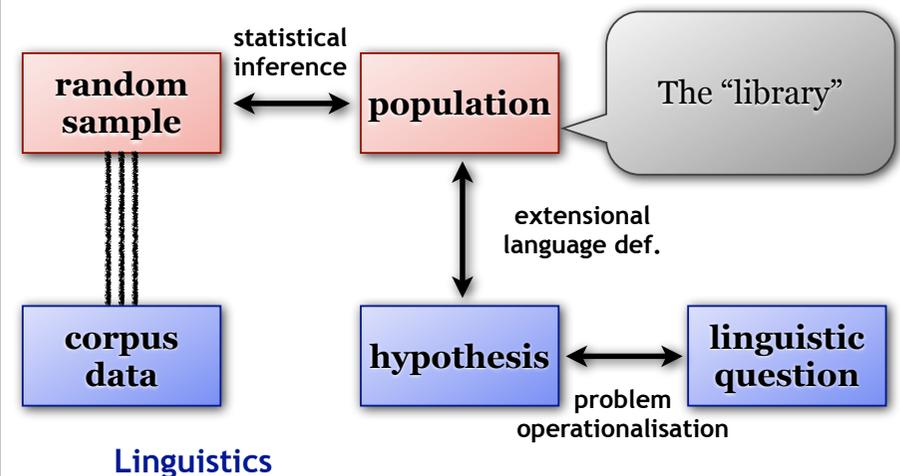
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The library metaphor

- ◆ 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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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

- ◆ 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 $f(v)$
sample size n

- ◆ Compare relative sample frequency ***p*** against (hypothesised) population proportion **π**

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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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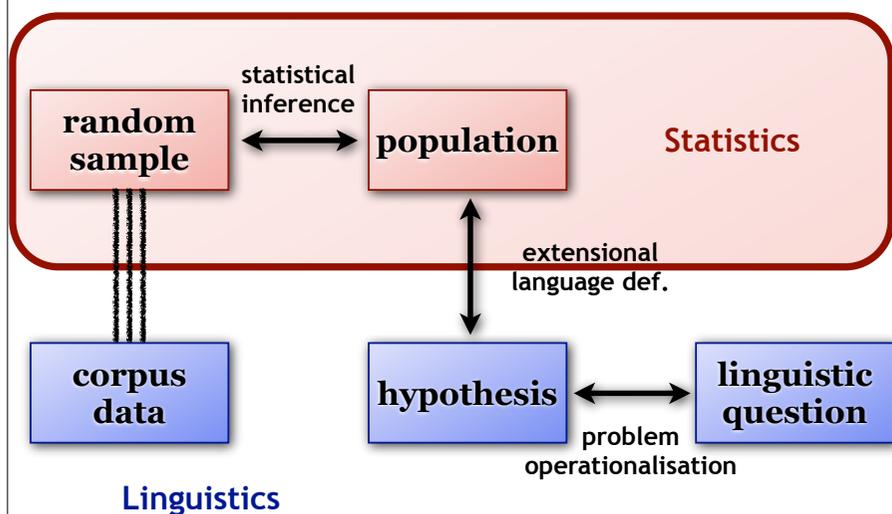
Sampling variation

- ◆ 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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Reminder: The role of statistics



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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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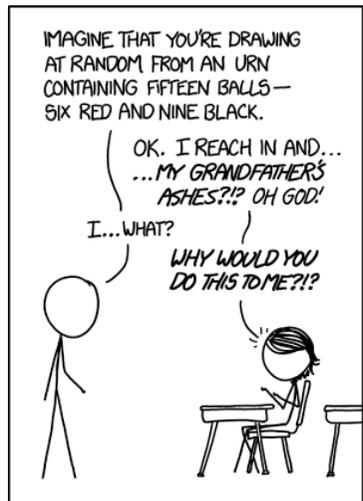
Estimating sampling variation

- ◆ 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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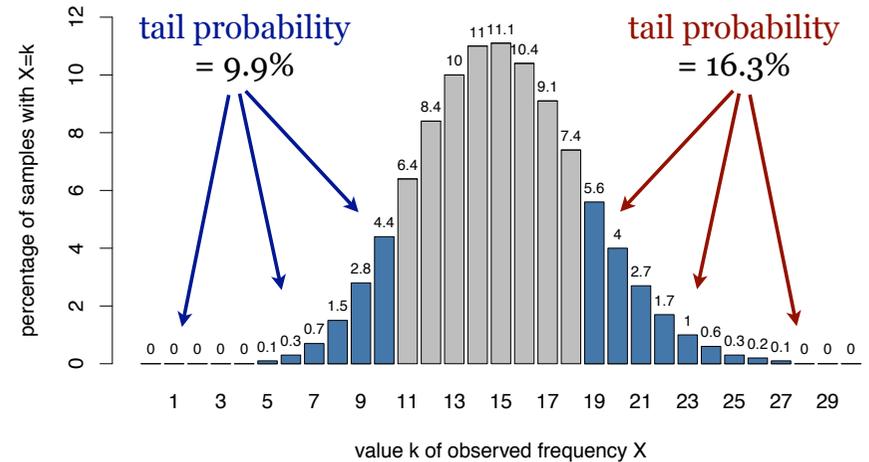


Comic relief

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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 α**)
- **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.

One sample: frequency estimate (confidence interval)

Frequency count	Sample size	Clear fields	95% confidence interval
19	100		in automatic format
<input type="checkbox"/> extrapolate to	Items	Calculate	with 4 significant digits

Two samples: frequency comparison

	Frequency count	Sample size	Clear fields
Sample 1	19	100	
Sample 2	25	200	Calculate

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

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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
```

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

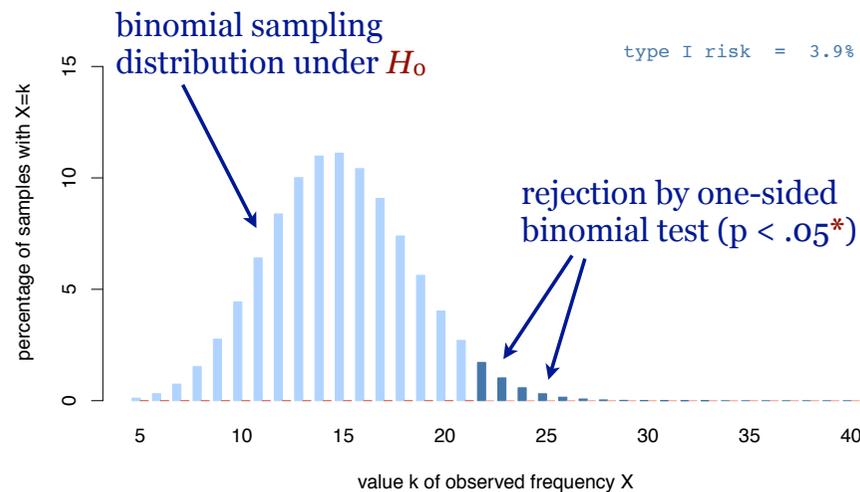
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Type II errors

- ◆ 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 π
 - intuitively, risk of type II error will be low if the difference $\delta = \pi - \pi_0$ (the **effect size**) is large enough

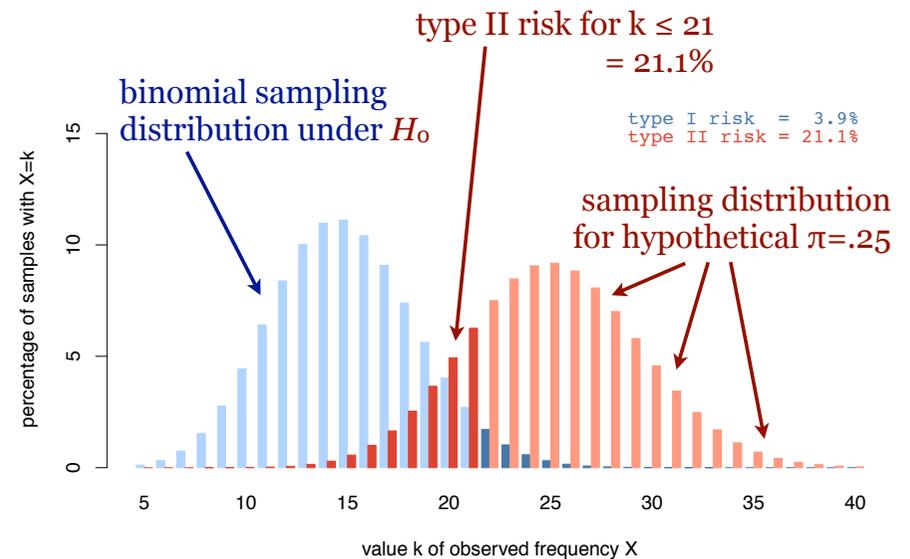
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Type II errors



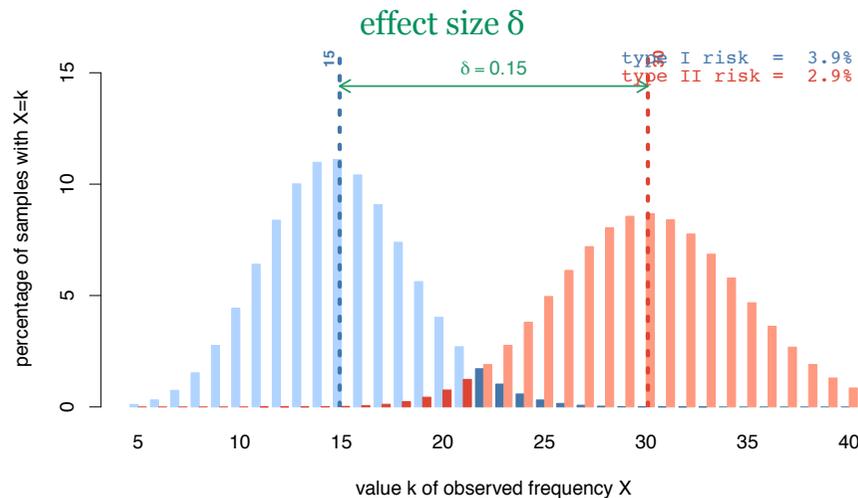
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Type II errors



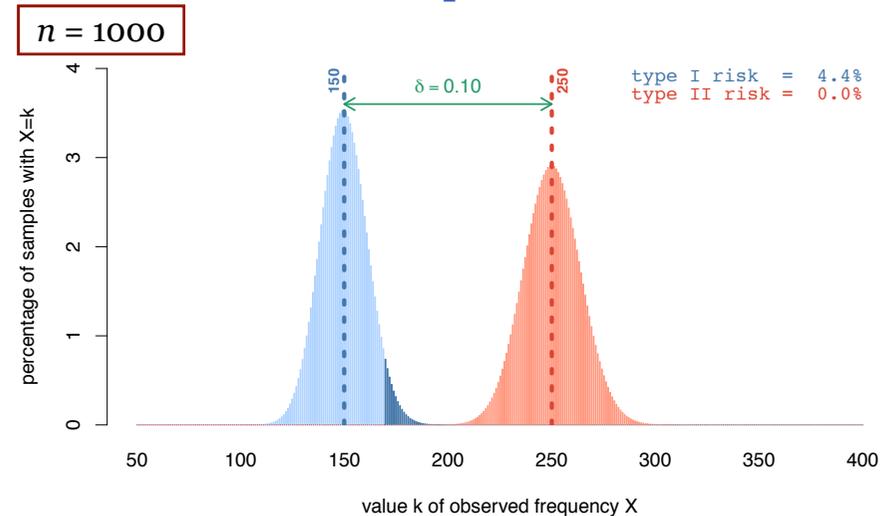
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Type II errors & effect size



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Type II errors & sample size



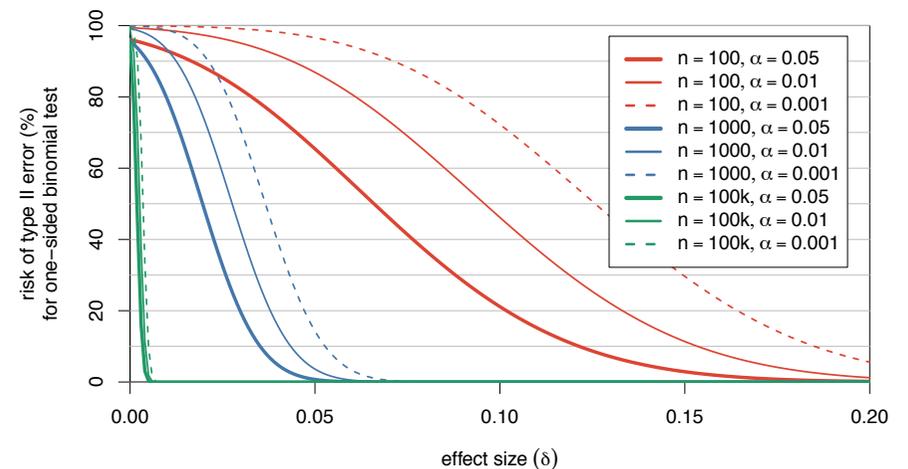
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Power

- ◆ 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 α → 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)

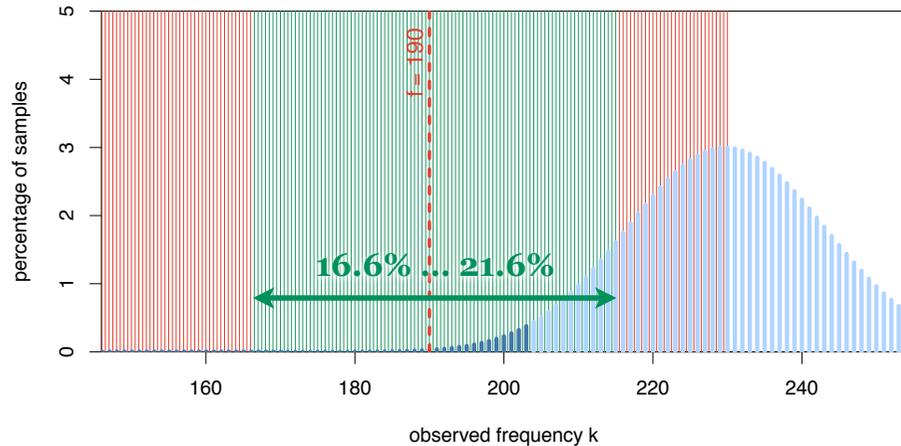
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Confidence interval

observed data:
 $k = 190 / n = 1000$

95% confidence
 $p < .05 = \alpha$

$H_0: \mu = 23\% \rightarrow$ rejected



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 π_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%

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

Confidence intervals in R

```
> binom.test(190, 1000, conf.level=.99)
Exact binomial test

data: 190 and 1000

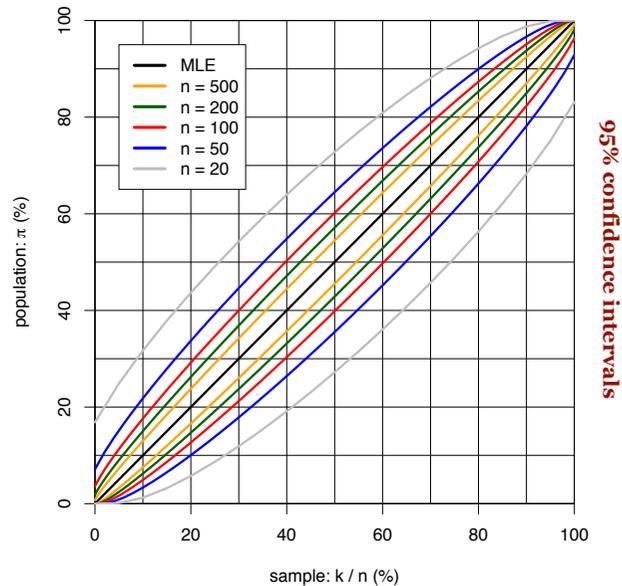
number of successes = 190, number of
trials = 1000, p-value < 2.2e-16

alternative hypothesis: true probability of
success is not equal to 0.5

99 percent confidence interval:
 0.1590920 0.2239133

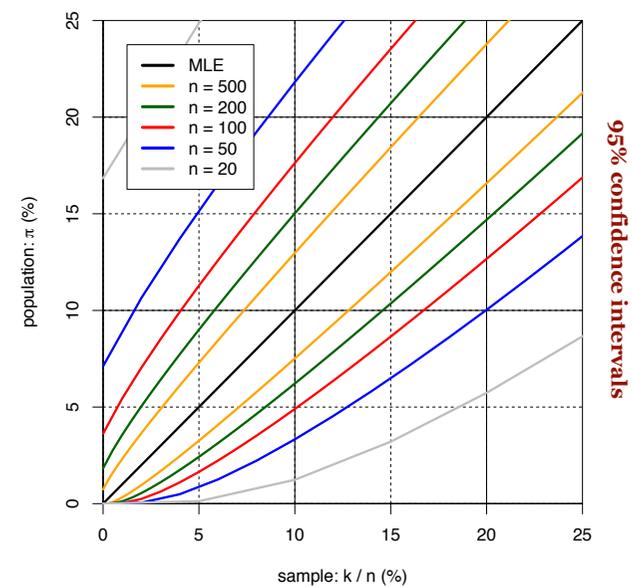
sample estimates:
probability of success
                0.19
```

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    |            |
|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| passive | $k_1$       | $k_2$       | 19    25   |
| 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**

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

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

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

- ◆  $H_0: \delta = 0$

- ◆ Issues

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

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

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

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## Effect size in contingency tables

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

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

- ◆  $H_0: \theta = 1$

- ◆ Issues

- can be inflated for small  $\pi_2$
- interpretation not very intuitive

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

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**

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

- ◆  $H_0: ???$

$$n = n_1 + n_2$$

- ◆ Issues

- this is a property of the sample rather than the population!

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

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**

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

- ◆  $H_0: \phi = 0$

$$n = n_1 + n_2$$

$$r_1 = n_1/n$$

$$r_2 = n_2/n$$

- ◆ Issues

- depends on relative sample sizes
- interpretation entirely unclear

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

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
  - $\phi$  computed from chi-square statistic is still a point estimate!

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

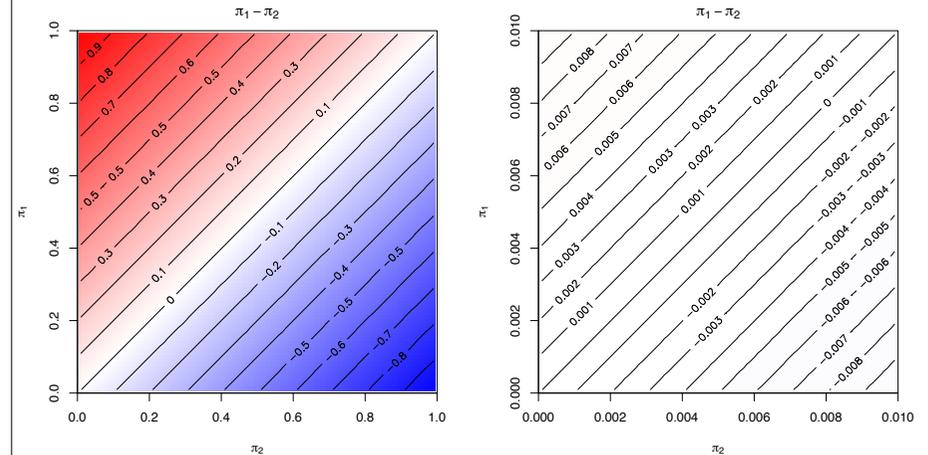
population equivalent of a contingency table, which determines the multinomial sampling distribution

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

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

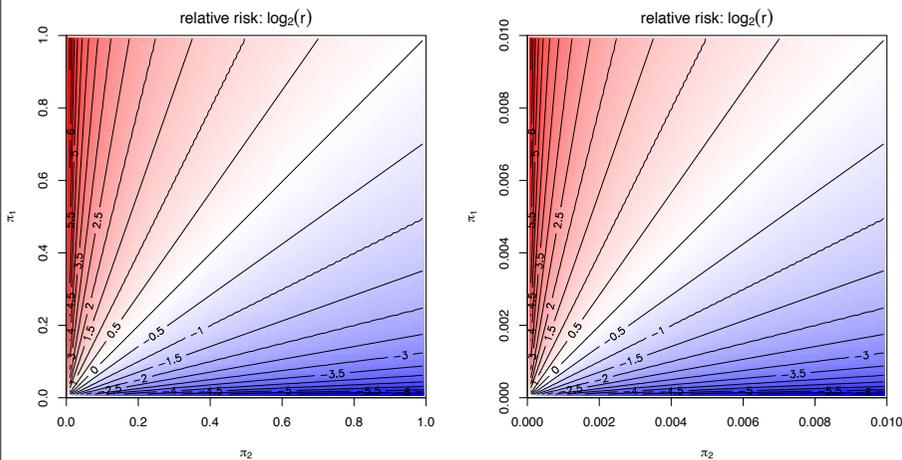
# Visualizing effect size measures

## difference of proportions



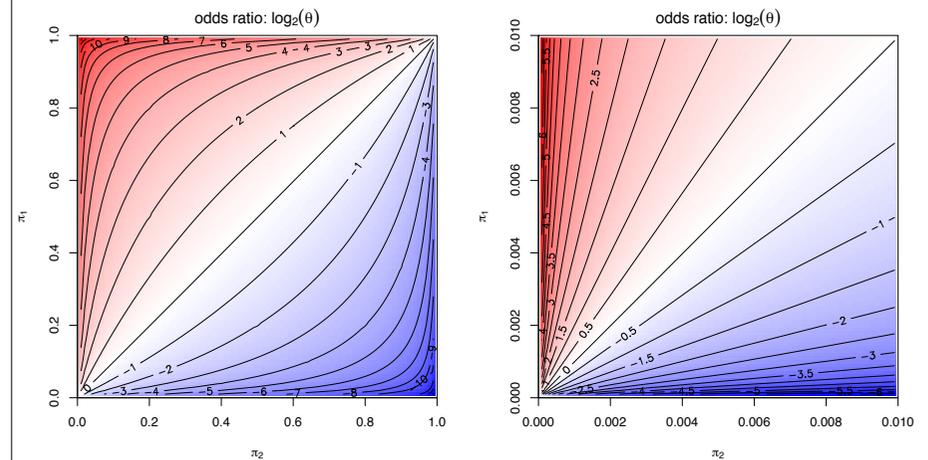
# Visualizing effect size measures

## (log) relative risk



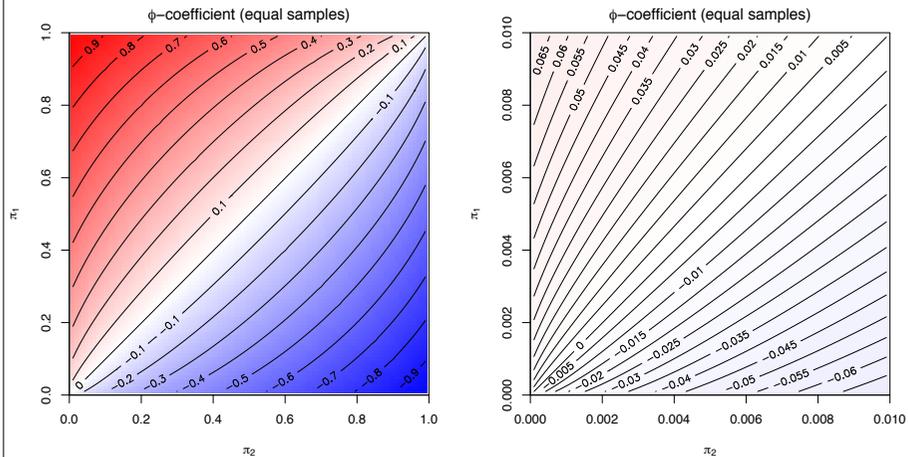
# Visualizing effect size measures

## (log) odds ratio



# Visualizing effect size measures

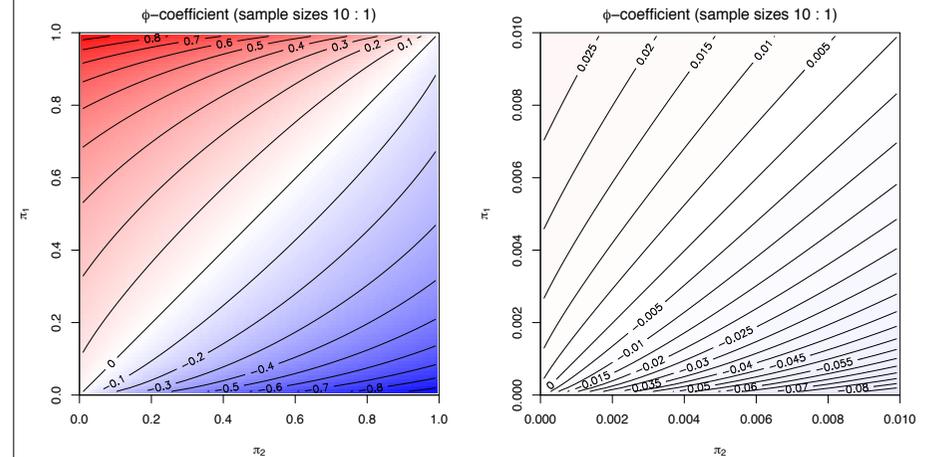
## $\phi$ coefficient (1 : 1)



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# Visualizing effect size measures

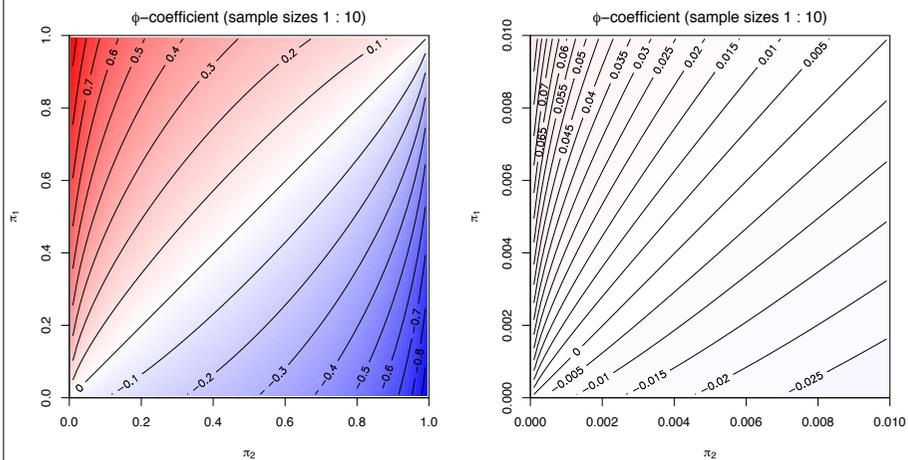
## $\phi$ coefficient (10 : 1)



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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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## 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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## Automation: user functions

```
user function do.test() executes proportions test for samples
k_1/n_1 and k_2/n_2 , 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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## 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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