

# Bivariate Association and Significance Testing

- Topics:
  - Transforming quantitative variables (linearly or nonlinearly)
  - Bivariate measures of association and hypothesis tests
    - Correlations for quantitative variables
    - Contingency table associations of categorical variables
  - Decision errors in hypothesis testing
    - Type I and Type II errors
    - Power analysis and sample size planning

# Review: Univariate Statistics

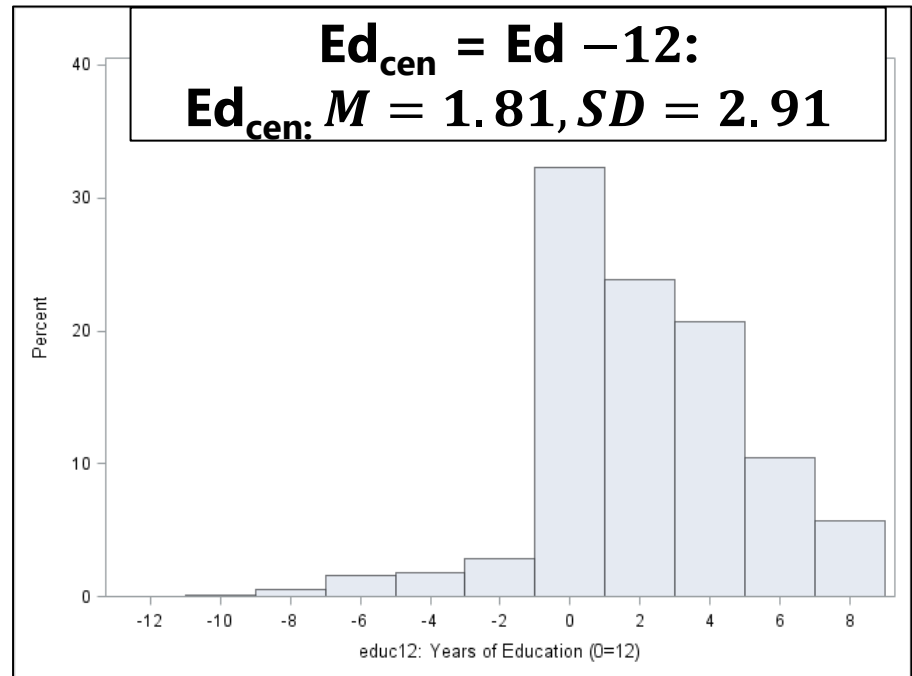
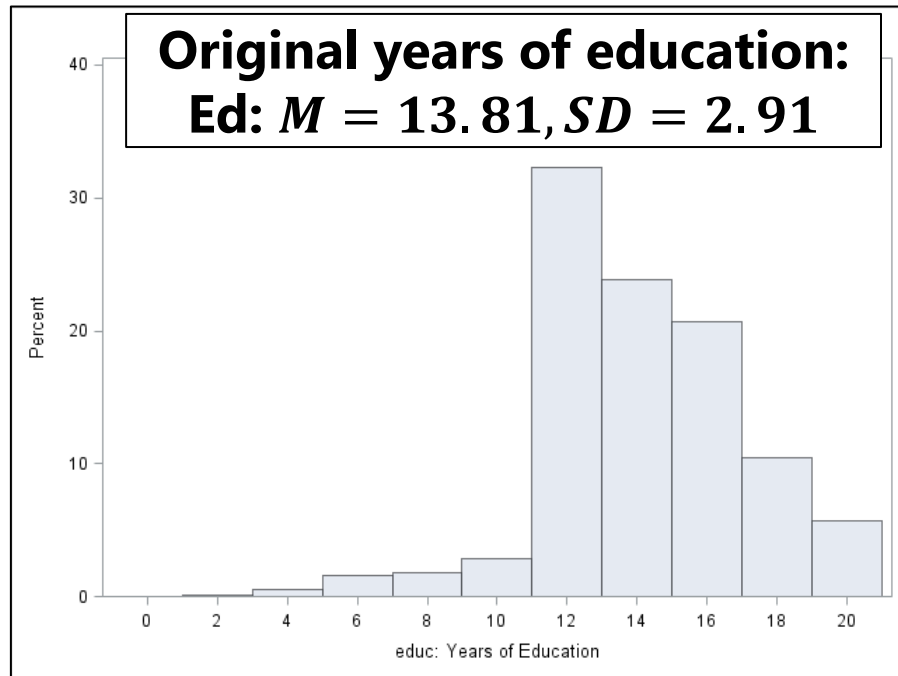
- What kind of **univariate summary statistics** are relevant to report depends on the type of variable to be described:
  - **Categorical variables (numbers are just labels):**
    - **Binary** (0 or 1): Mean (= **proportion** of 1 values); variance and skewness are then determined by the mean (i.e., they are redundant)
    - **Ordinal** or **Nominal** with **3+ categories**: **percentage** of each category; a single mean (or variance or skewness) makes no kind of sense
    - You may see ordinal variables treated as quantitative, but keep in mind this assumes real distances between the numbers used as labels
    - Bar graphs of the percentage in each category make a good visual
  - **Quantitative variables (numbers are numbers):**
    - If “symmetric enough”: Min, Max, Mean, SD (or  $SD^2 = \text{variance}$ )
    - If not, add median (for central tendency) and IQR (for dispersion) that are “robust” to outliers (extreme values) or general skewness
    - Binned-value histograms or boxplots (or violin plots) make good visuals

# Transforming Quantitative Variables

- **Metric of quantitative variables** can vary greatly across contexts
  - May be familiar scales of “real” units: e.g., income in \$1000s, height in inches/centimeters, weight in pounds/kilograms
  - May be frequencies: e.g., packs of cigarettes smoked weekly, length of hospital stay, number of hurricanes this year
  - May be induced by the number and format of contributing items: e.g., a score on a depression screener of 31; a score on a vocabulary test of 47
- **Arbitrary metrics are often transformed for interpretability**
  - e.g., number correct → percent correct (to range from 0-100%)
  - e.g., for 10 items, each with choices of 1-5, a sum score of 31 → item mean of 3.1 (i.e., near whatever “3” means on average)
  - e.g., test scores get converted to common “standardized” scale, e.g.,  $M=100$ ,  $SD=15$  (see also GRE scores with  $M\sim 150$ ,  $SD\sim 10$ )
  - These are all examples of **linear transformations**—transformations to the mean and/or variance of a variable that **changes all of its values evenly**

# Linear Transformation: Centering

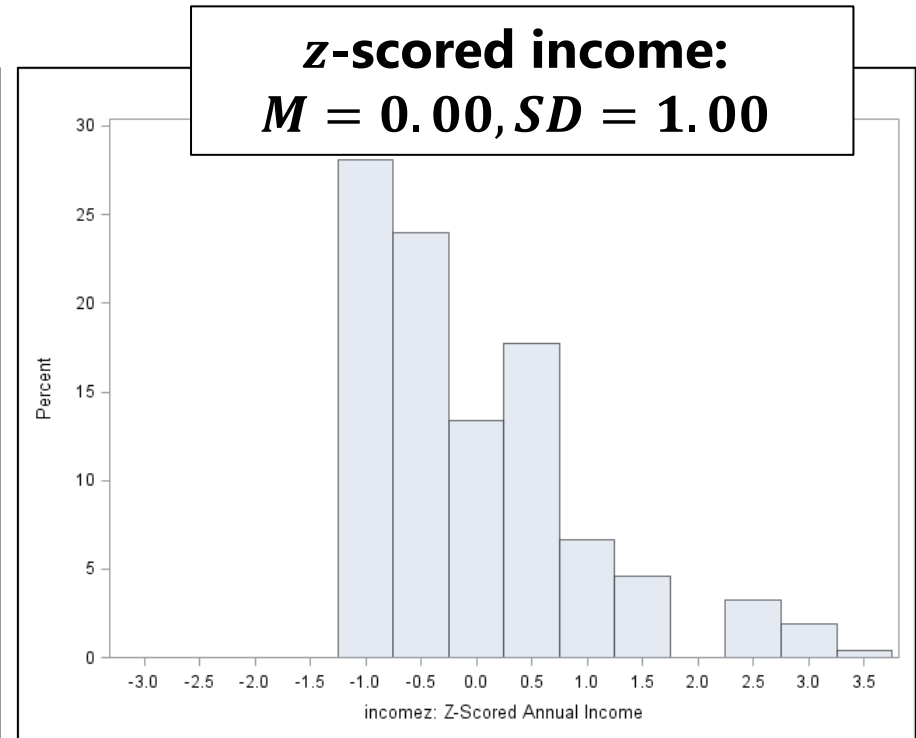
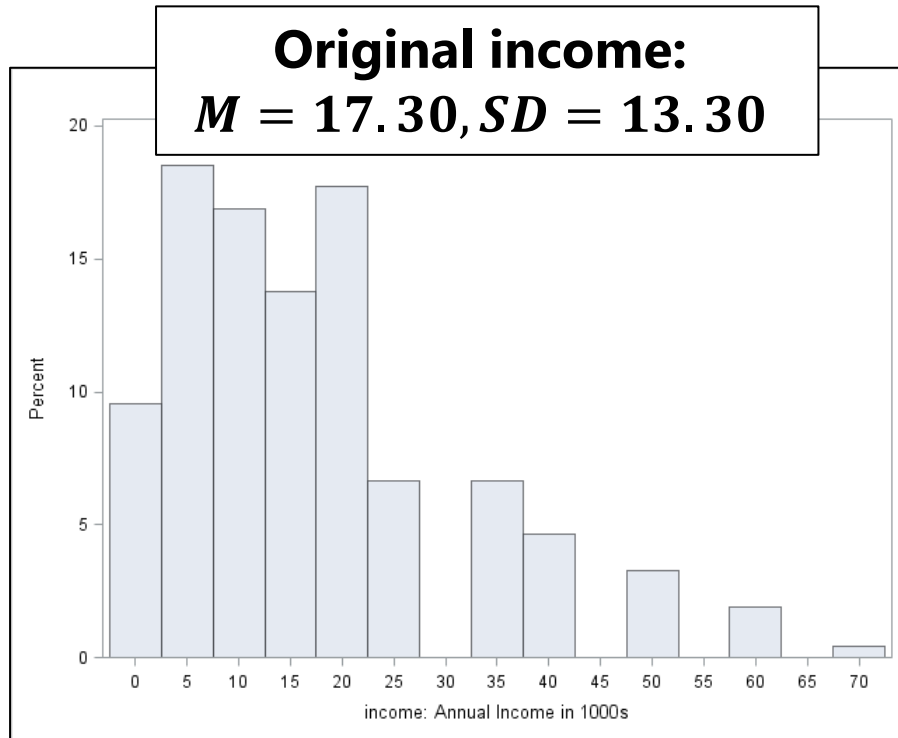
- Another example is **centering** → **adding or subtracting a constant** so that 0 is then a meaningful value for the new (centered) variable
  - If the sample mean  $\bar{y}$  is chosen as the centering constant, this is known as “**mean-centering**” (or “grand-mean-centering”)
  - Predictors will be centered when we build models (lecture 3)...



# Linear Transformation: z-scoring

- Prevalent in statistics is the use of “**z-scoring**” = **standardize to scale of  $M = 0$ ,  $SD = 1$**  using:  $z_i = \frac{y_i - \bar{y}}{s}$
- Despite the name, z-scoring does NOT make a variable normally distributed!

To unstandardize back from  $z_i$  to  $y_i$ :  
 $y_i = \bar{y} + (z_i * s)$

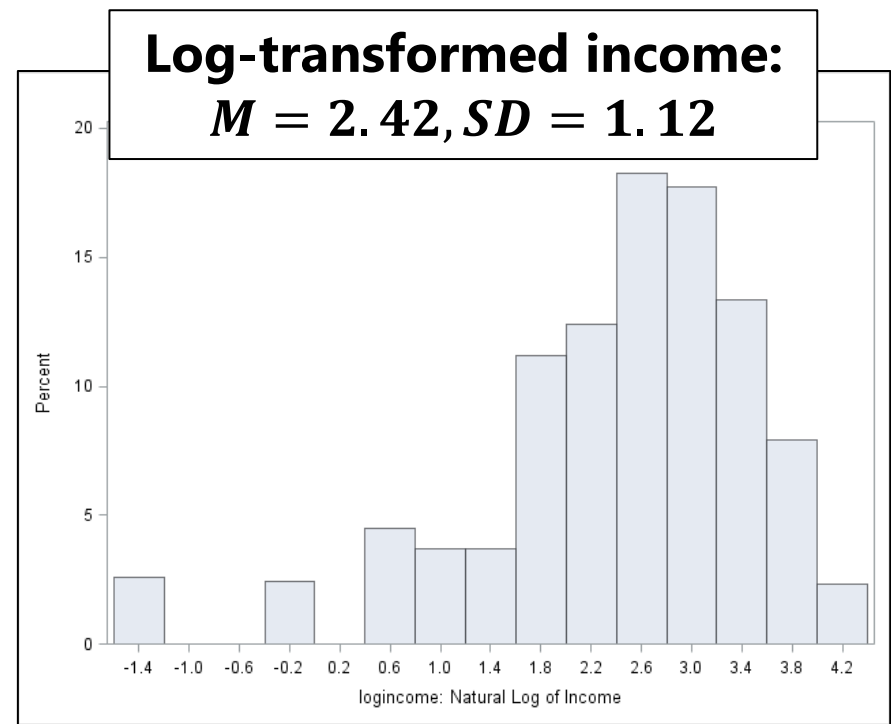
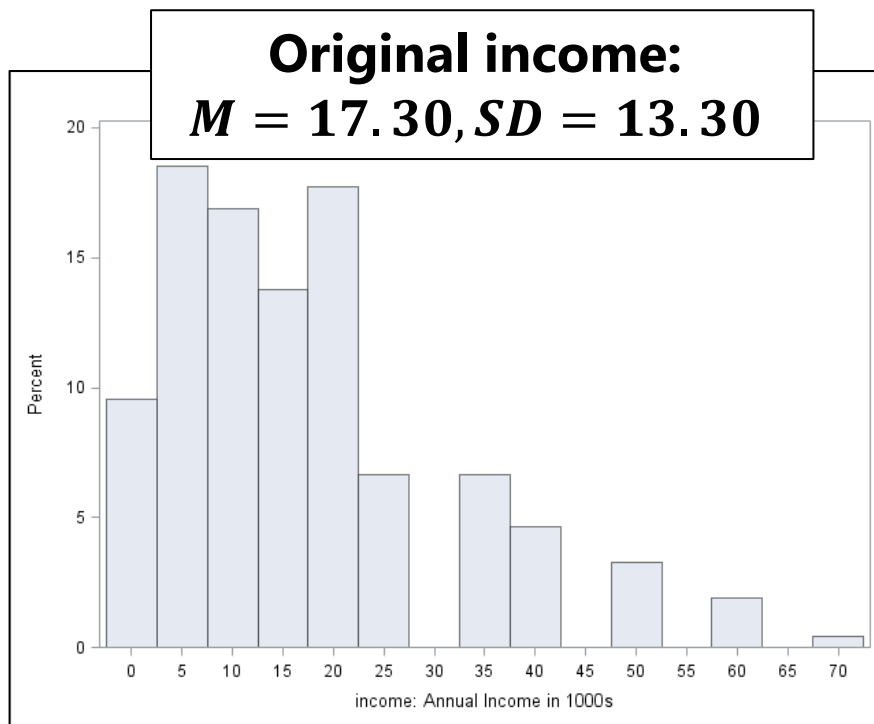


# Linear vs. Nonlinear Transformations

- Primary uses of **linear transformations**:
  - To make the variable's values more **interpretable** (0 especially)
  - To put **different variables onto the same scale** so the strength of their associations with other variables can be compared more easily
- In contrast, **nonlinear transformations change a variable's values unevenly**, often done for one of these reasons:
  - To create an **unbounded version of a bounded variable** (to be used when predicting variables with boundaries)
    - We will see an example of this in creating confidence intervals (stay tuned)
  - To **reduce the impact** of extreme (positive) values—two examples:
    - Replace values with **rank-order** (also used for associations of ordinal variables)
    - Reshape values with **natural-log transformation**... let's see an example of this

# Nonlinear Transformation: Natural Log

- One example of a nonlinear transformation uses the “**logarithm**”  
→ the exponent to which the base must be raised to produce a number  $x$ : so  $\text{Log}_{base}(x) = y$  exactly if  $base^y = x$
- The only one you will likely see in statistics is the “**Natural log**” ( $\text{Log}_e$ ) that uses  $e$  ( $\sim 2.718281828459$ ) as its base:  $\text{Log}_e(x) = e^x = \exp(x)$
- $\text{Log}_e$  spreads out lower values, and reels in upper values

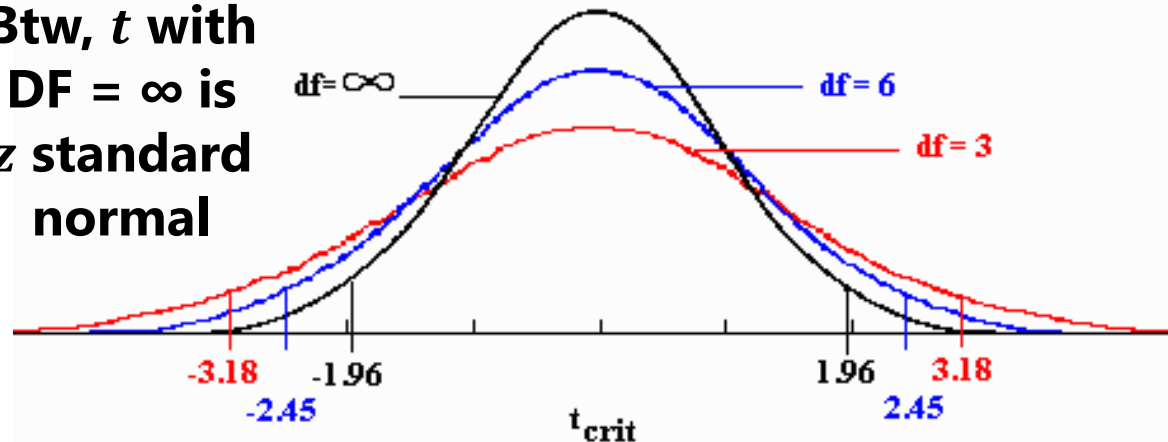


For details, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural\\_logarithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_logarithm)

# Review: From Sample to Population

- In lecture 1, we explored how to make inferences about a population mean ( $\mu$ ) from a sample mean ( $\bar{y}$ ):
  - Relies on the **standard error (SE) of the mean** ( $SE = s/\sqrt{N}$ ), which is the average deviation of any sample mean from the population mean
  - Use SE to form a **confidence interval** (CI) around the sample mean estimate
    - $Estimate \pm t_{critical} * SE$ , where % confidence and  $DF_{den} (N - 1) \rightarrow t_{critical}$
  - Use SE to form a **significance test**: How often would we see a sample mean  $\bar{y}$  so discrepant from the population mean  $\mu$  if  $\mu$  really was true?
    - **p-value** = probability of more extreme result (from  $t$ -distribution given alpha)

Btw,  $t$  with  
DF =  $\infty$  is  
z standard  
normal



- $t_{critical}$  values for **alpha = .05 by DF** shown here
- **With smaller  $N$ ,** have to go farther out to **get to 5%**



# From Univariate to Bivariate

- So far we've seen how to address **univariate research questions** involving a comparison of a sample statistic to a known population value (e.g., mean)
- But to answer questions about **relationships** between two variables, we need measures of **bivariate association** → **bi** = "two" variables
- Which measure of bivariate association should be used depends on the **kind of variables being paired** (binary, nominal, ordinal, or quantitative)
- For each measure of association, we need a **point estimate** and a test of its "**statistical significance**": the probability of observing the association we found in the sample *if the association in the population were truly 0*
  - More formally, the process of testing an association between variables against a population value (e.g., 0) is known as "**Null Hypothesis Significance Testing**"
  - Let's see how NHST works with a common measure of association between pairs of quantitative variables: **Pearson's correlation**...
    - Pearson correlations are available in SAS PROC CORR or STATA PWCORR

# Introducing Pearson's Correlation $r$

- Let's say we have **two quantitative variables**,  $x$  and  $y$ 
  - To graph their relationship, we can request a **scatterplot**, in which values for  $x$  are shown on the x-axis and values for  $y$  are shown on the y-axis
  - Correspondence between  $x$  and  $y$  values will be captured by a general effect size called "**correlation**"; one specific type for *quantitative* variables is **Pearson's**
  - A **population** correlation is denoted as  $\rho$  ("rho"), and a **sample** correlation is  $r$
  - Correlations range continuously from **-1 to 1** (size indicated by absolute value)
- Here are some example scatterplots and the correlations they depict, ranging from perfectly positive ( $r = 1$ ), to none ( $r = 0$ ), to perfectly negative ( $r = -1$ ):

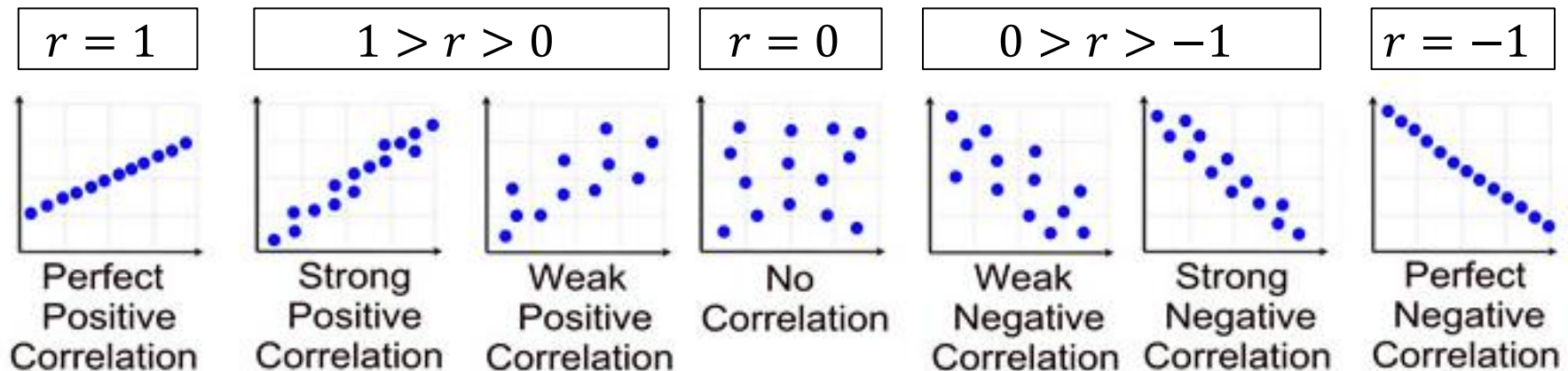


Image borrowed from: <https://mathbitsnotebook.com/AlgebraI/StatisticsReg/ST2CorrelationCoefficients.html>

# Computing Pearson's Correlation $r$

- To compute Pearson's  $r$  for quantitative variables  $x$  and  $y$ , we first need their univariate statistics of mean and variance:

- Means:  $\bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i}{N}$ ,  $\bar{y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N y_i}{N}$

- Variances:  $s_x^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{N-1}$ ,  $s_y^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2}{N-1}$

Note the change in notation: we identify to which variable the  $s^2$  variance refers using a subscript

- Second, we compute their **covariance**: an unbounded measure of **association** in the **original metric** of the two variables

- Covariance of  $x$  and  $y$ :  $Cov(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})]}{N-1}$

- **Positive** covariance  $\rightarrow$  same-direction match

- **High**  $x$  values go with **High**  $y$  values; **Low**  $x$  values go with **Low**  $y$  values

- **Negative** covariance  $\rightarrow$  opposite-direction match

- **High**  $x$  values go with **Low**  $y$  values; **Low**  $x$  values go with **High**  $y$  values

- **Zero** covariance  $\rightarrow$  no correspondence of any kind

- Btw, the covariance of a variable with itself is its variance

Within each variable, we have only spent 1  $DF_{den} \rightarrow$  so still  $N - 1$

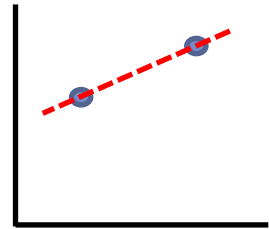
# Computing Pearson's Correlation $r$

- Covariance of  $x$  and  $y$ :  $Cov(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})]}{N-1}$ 
  - Although a **covariance's direction is informative, its value is not directly informative** because it is **specific to the  $x$  and  $y$  units**
  - Example: the association between **height and weight** in  $N = 10$  men:
    - Height in inches:  $\bar{x} = 72.20$ ,  $s_x = 6.51$ ,  $s_x^2 = 42.40$ ,  $range = 62 - 82$
    - Weight in pounds:  $\bar{y} = 235.90$ ,  $s_y = 20.89$ ,  $s_y^2 = 436.54$ ,  $range = 201 - 269$
    - Covariance:  $Cov(x, y) = 135.24$  "inch-pounds" indicates ?????
    - It's a **positive covariance**, which tells us that **taller men tend to be heavier**, but it does not give the size of this relationship in a standardized way... we need  **$r$**
- Third: we rescale the covariance by adjusting it for the SD of each variable, which leads to **Pearson's  $r$ , a standardized association**
  - $r = \frac{Cov(x, y)}{s_x s_y} = \frac{135.24}{6.51 * 20.89} = .99408$
  - Positive association is almost perfect!

If both variables have SD=1 (e.g., they have each been z-scored so Mean=0, SD=1), then Covariance = Correlation

# Adjusting\* Pearson's $r$ for Sample Size

- Note what is **not included** in the formula for Pearson's  $r$ :
    - $r = \frac{Cov(x,y)}{s_x s_y} \rightarrow$  There is no reference to  $DF_{den}$  to reflect **sample size!**
    - To illustrate why this is a problem, think about what would happen if we picked two points randomly and fit a line through them... perfect ( $r = 1$ )!
  - To solve this problem in small samples (like our example of  $N = 10$ ), one could instead choose to report an "**adjusted correlation**"\*\*\*:
    - $r_{adj} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{(1-r^2)(N-1)}{N-2}} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{(1-.99^2)(10-1)}{10-2}} = .99339$  (instead of .99408)
    - $r$  and  $r_{adj}$  will be more similar the stronger the correlation is, and the bigger the sample is
- \*\*\* I have never actually reported  $r_{adj}$ , but I include it here for completeness just in case Reviewer 3 asks for it someday...



# Testing Pearson's $r$ for “Significance”

- More generally, we are doing a “**Null Hypothesis Significance Test**”; in this example, we are asking “what is the probability of observing the sample  $r$  we found if the population  $\rho = 0$ ”?
  - A “**hypothesis**” is a statement about a population parameter
- A “**null hypothesis**” ( $H_0$ ) is a statement about the population parameter being equal to some specific (expected) value
  - In Lecture 1 testing the sample mean  $\bar{y}$ ,  $H_0: \mu = 10$
  - In current example testing the sample correlation  $r$ ,  $H_0: \rho = 0$
- An “**alternative hypothesis**” ( $H_A$ ) is a statement that contradicts the null hypothesis and **conveys allowed directionality of deviations** from value given by  $H_0$ 
  - In Lecture 1 with the sample mean  $\bar{y}$ ,  $H_A: \mu \neq 10$
  - In current example with the sample correlation  $r$ ,  $H_A: \rho \neq 0$
  - These are both “two-tailed” hypotheses (allow either direction)

# Steps in Significance Testing

- **Choose critical region: % alpha (“unexpected”) and possible direction**
  - Two sides or just one side?
  - Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) (1 – % confidence)?
  - Distribution for test-statistic will be dictated as follows:

Uses Denominator Degrees of Freedom?	Test 1 thing*	Test > 1 thing*
No: implies infinite $N$	$z$	$\chi^2 (= z^2 \text{ if } 1)$
Yes: adjusts based on $N$	$t$	$F (= t^2 \text{ if } 1)$
- If the **test-statistic exceeds** the distribution’s critical value(s), then the obtained  **$p$ -value is less than the chosen alpha** level:
  - You “**reject the null hypothesis**”—it is sufficiently **unexpected** to get a test-statistic that extreme *if the null hypothesis is true*; result is “**significant**”
- If the **test-statistic does NOT exceed** the distribution’s critical value(s), then the  **$p$ -value is greater than or equal to the chosen alpha** level:
  - You “**DO NOT reject the null hypothesis**”—it is sufficiently **expected** to get a test-statistic that extreme *if the null hypothesis is true*; result is “**not significant**”

\* Thing = numerator DF for association (stay tuned)

# Testing Pearson's $r$ for “Significance”

- Sample correlation  $r$  is tested against population correlation  $\rho$  using a  **$t$ -distribution** (with denominator degrees of freedom,  $DF_{den}$ )
  - For  $H_0: \rho = 0$ , test-statistic  $t = r \sqrt{\frac{N-2}{1-r^2}}$ ,  $DF_{den} = N - 2$
- Choose a **two-tailed test** (because either a negative or positive correlation would be meaningful), and **typical alpha ( $\alpha$ ) = .05**
  - For  $\alpha = .05$  (95% confidence) and  $DF_{den} = 8$ , then  $t_{critical} = \pm 2.31$
- For our example, testing  $H_0: \rho = 0$ 

Either way, **we reject  $H_0$ :**  
 $r$  is “**significantly**” positive

  - **Pearson's  $r$ :**  $t = .99408 \sqrt{\frac{10-2}{1-(.99408)^2}} = 25.88$ ,  $p = .00000000534$  (5.34E-09)
  - **Adjusted  $r$ :**  $t = .99334 \sqrt{\frac{10-2}{1-(.99334)^2}} = 24.38$ ,  $p = .00000000855$  (8.55E-09)
  - It's **REALLY UNLIKELY** to observe  $r = .99$  with  $N = 10$  if the true  $\rho = 0$



# Testing Pearson's $r$ for “Significance”

- Another example using  $N = 10$  and two random variables simulated to have no relationship in the population ( $\rho = 0$ )

➤  $t = r \sqrt{\frac{N-2}{1-r^2}}$ , for  $DF_{den} = N - 2 = 8$  and  $\alpha = .05$ ,  $t_{critical} = \pm 2.31$

- New example, testing  $H_0: \rho = 0$

Either way, we **do not reject  $H_0$** :  
 $r$  is “**nonsignificantly**” negative

➤ **Pearson's  $r$** :  $t = -.250 \sqrt{\frac{10-2}{1-(-.250)^2}} = -0.732$   $p = .485$

➤ **Adjusted  $r$** :  $t = -.237 \sqrt{\frac{10-2}{1-(-.237)^2}} = -0.691$ ,  $p = .498$

- It's **sufficiently expected** to obtain  $r = \pm .25$  with  $N = 10$  if the true  $\rho = 0$ ;  
a more extreme  $t$  test-statistic would have been found about 49% of the time
- When reporting results, 2 or 3 decimal places is sufficient
- Quantities that cannot go past 1 (like  $r$  and  $p$ ) do not need leading zeros, but you should use them for everything else

# Pearson correlation $r$ : From estimate of relationship directly to significance

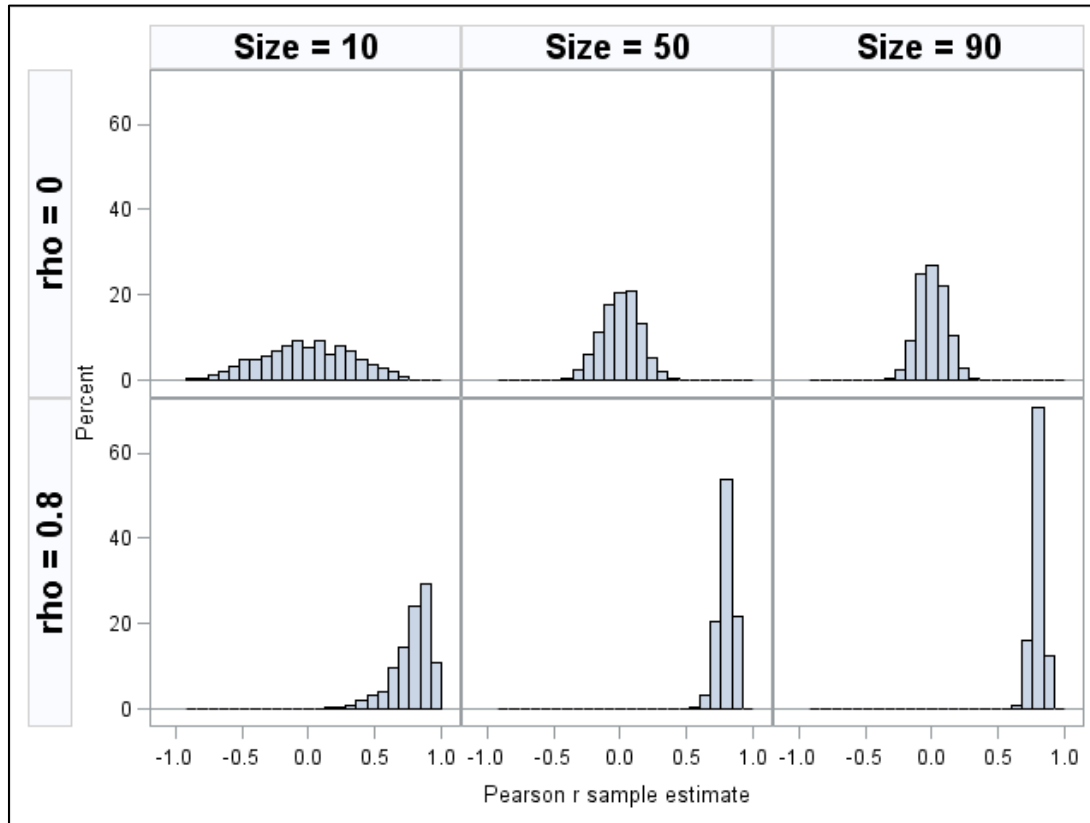
- To estimate the Pearson correlation  $r$  between two variables in a sample, we need their means, variances ( $\rightarrow$ SD), and covariance:
  - $Cov(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})]}{N-1} \rightarrow \text{Pearson } r = \frac{Cov(x, y)}{s_x s_y}$
- We then **directly compute a  $t$  test-statistic** for sample correlation  $r$  against population correlation  $\rho = 0$  **using sample size  $N$** :
  - $t = r \sqrt{\frac{N-2}{1-r^2}}$ ,  $DF_{den} = N - 2$  and chosen alpha  $\rightarrow t_{critical}$
  - Note: the same  $r$  will result in a greater  $t$  test-statistic (i.e.,  $t$ -value) with greater  $N \rightarrow$  **more people, easier to say** obtained correlation  $r$  is "**unexpected**" if population correlation is really  $\rho = 0$
  - In software, the  $t$ -value is generally omitted and given instead is the **exact  $p$ -value  $\rightarrow$  probability of sample  $r$  if population  $\rho = 0$** 
    - If  $p\text{-value} < \alpha$ , reject  $H_0: \rho = 0 \rightarrow r$  is "significantly" different than 0

# What about a CI for correlation $r$ ?

- Knowing a correlation  $r$  is “significant” doesn’t speak to its **expected inconsistency** across samples...
  - Remember **confidence intervals**? CI = range that should include the population value in chosen % of samples
    - A **symmetric interval** around any sample statistic (like correlation  $r$  here) is given by:  $CI = estimate \pm (critical * SE)$
    - **critical** refers to threshold value on PDF capturing the statistic’s sampling distribution given chosen alpha + directionality (one side or both) and degrees of freedom (numerator and/or denominator)
    - **SE** refers to standard error of the correlation estimate  $r$ : the average deviation of a sample correlation from the population correlation
- Relative to the SE and CI for a sample mean previously, finding the SE and CI for a sample correlation is more complicated because  $r$  only ranges from  $-1$  to  $1$

# Sampling Distribution of correlation $r$

- Demo: I simulated two bivariate normal distributions ( $\rho = 0$  or  $\rho = .8$ ) of 100,000 fake persons for variables  $x_i$  and  $y_i$ , each in a z-score metric (so  $M = 0$ ,  $SD = 1$ )
- Drew 1000 random samples each of  $N = 10, 50$ , or  $80$



Pop $\rho$	$N$ per sample	Mean $r_s$	SD $r_s$
0	10	-.02	.34
	50	.00	.14
	90	.00	.11
.8	<b>10</b>	<b>.77</b>	<b>.15</b>
	50	.79	.06
	90	.80	.04

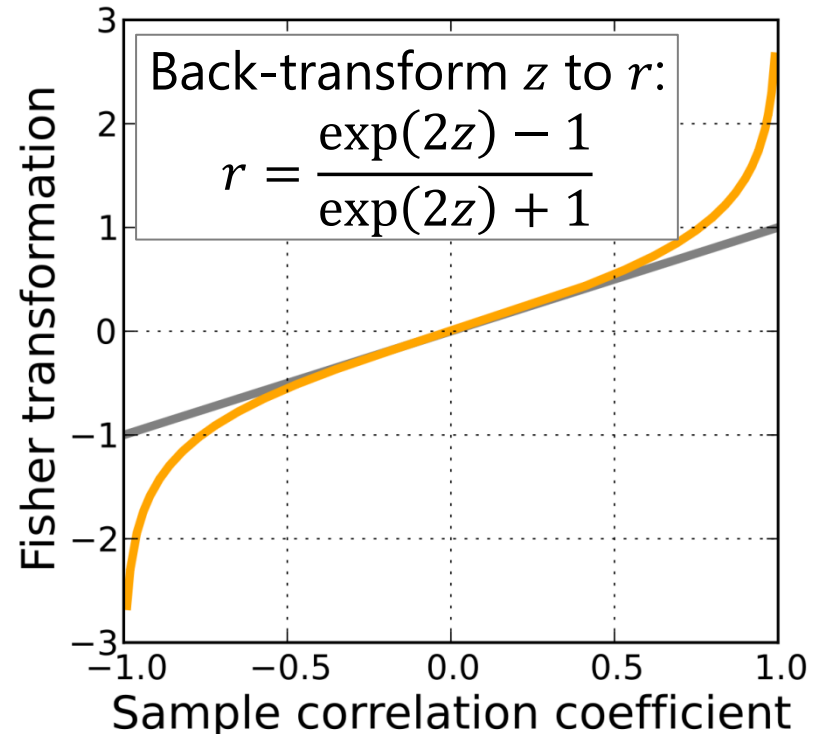
What would happen to  
 $CI = r \pm (2ish * SE)???$

# SE and CI for Pearson's $r$

- Finding an SE and CI for  $r$  is more complicated because  **$r$  is bounded between  $\pm 1$** 
  - This means that a symmetric CI (i.e., from  $r \pm \text{critical} * SE$ ) will not work for extreme  $r$  values
- One solution is a **nonlinear "Fisher transformation"** →
  - It's called "**Fisher's  $z$** ", but it's not the same  $z$  as in  $z$ -score (sorry)
- A **more general solution** is to form a symmetric CI around the **unbounded slope (implied by bounded  $r$ ) in a model**
  - Stay tuned...

$$\textbf{Fisher } z_r = 0.5 \left[ \text{Log}_e \left( \frac{1+r}{1-r} \right) \right],$$
$$SE \ z_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-3}}, \ CI = z_r \pm z_{crit} * SE$$

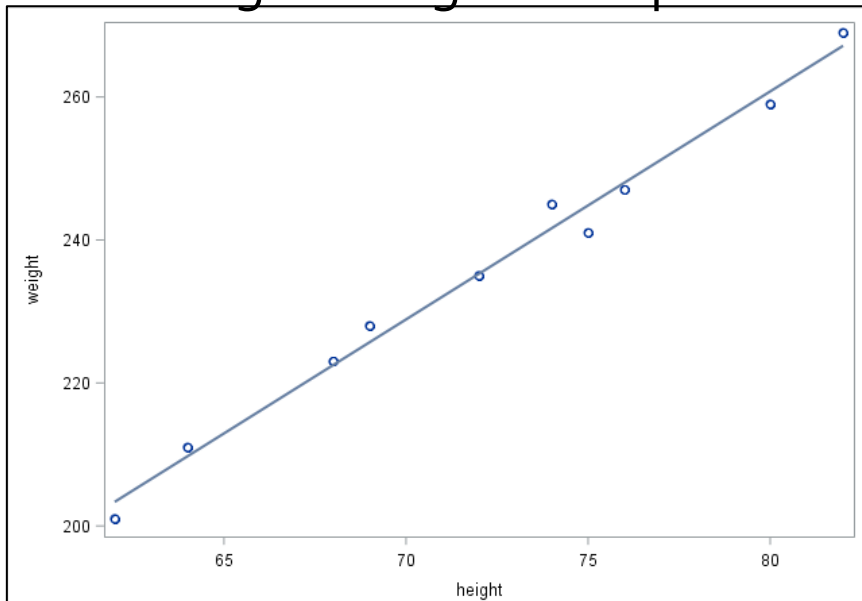
**Steps:** convert  $r$  to  $z_r$ , compute lower and upper bounds in  $z$ -scale, back-transform bounds to  $r$ -scale



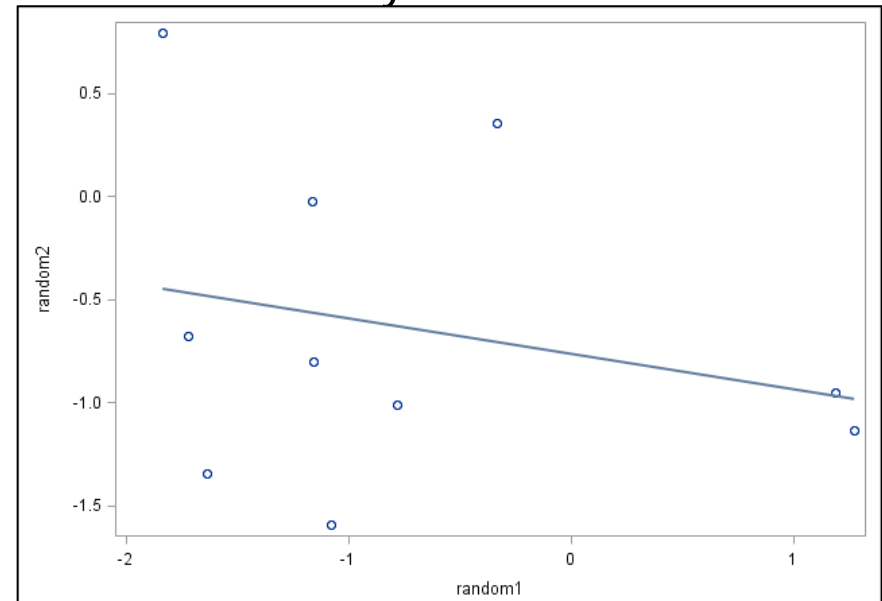
# Pearson's Correlation and Linearity

- The bivariate association between quantitative variables provided by Pearson's correlation  $r$  has a specific assumed form: **linear relationship**
- The  $r$  value is indicated by the **slope of the prediction ("regression") line**  
How did the regression line get determined? Stay tuned...

$r = .994$  for  
Height–Weight example

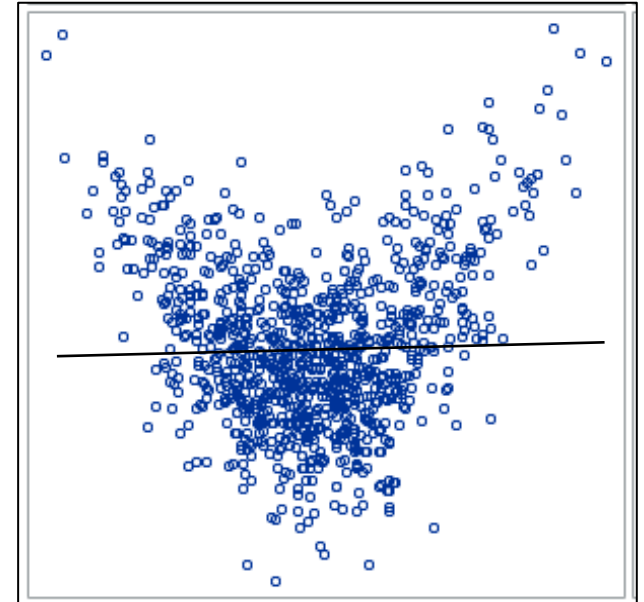
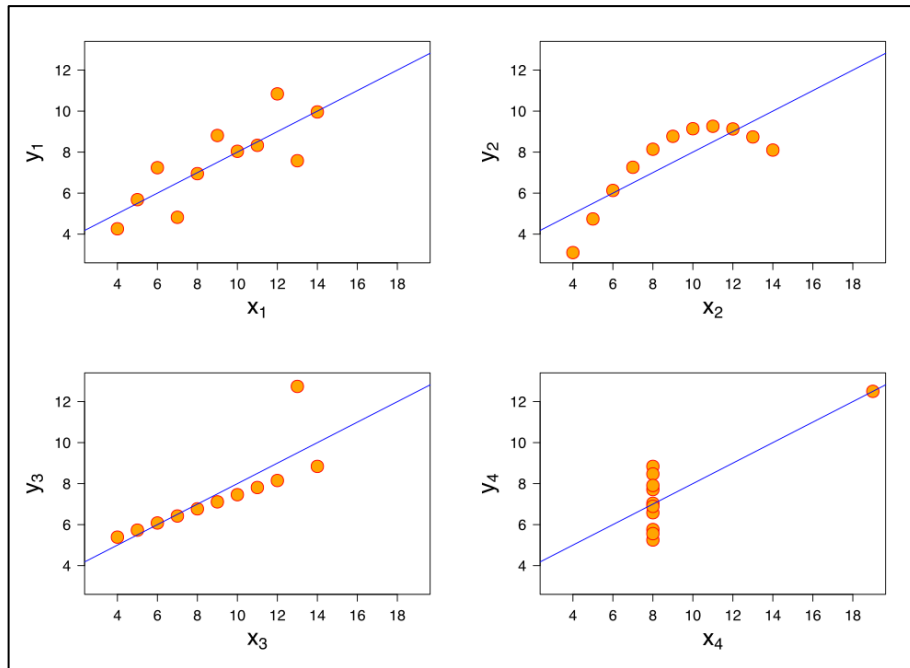


$r = -.250$  for  
two randomly created variables



# Pearson Correlation and Linearity

- **Pearson's  $r$  will not capture any nonlinear relationships**
- Right: line reflects  $r = .05$ , but it misses the real story—a U-shaped relationship
  - X and Y are negatively related up to some point, after which they are positively related



Left: Anscombe's quartet, in which  $r = .82$  in each of 4 datasets with nearly identical statistics (but which show very different types of association)

Right image borrowed from Ryan Walters IDC 625 (Creighton University)

Left image borrowed from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anscombe%27s\\_quartet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anscombe%27s_quartet)

PSQF 6242: Lecture 2

# Pearson's $r$ vs. Spearman's $\rho$ ( $\rho$ )

- Computational shortcuts for Pearson's  $r$  with special names:
  - Pearson's  $r$  for two binary variables = "**phi**"  $r$
  - Pearson's  $r$  for a binary and a quantitative variable = "**point-biserial**"  $r$
- To reduce influence of "outliers" (extreme values), choose another kind of correlation: **Spearman's rank correlation coefficient (or  $\rho$ , rho)**
  - Sort variables by value, then do **Pearson's  $r$  on the rank order** of values (using same process to find SE, CIs, and  $t$  test-statistics for significance)
  - Available in SAS PROC CORR or STATA SPEARMAN

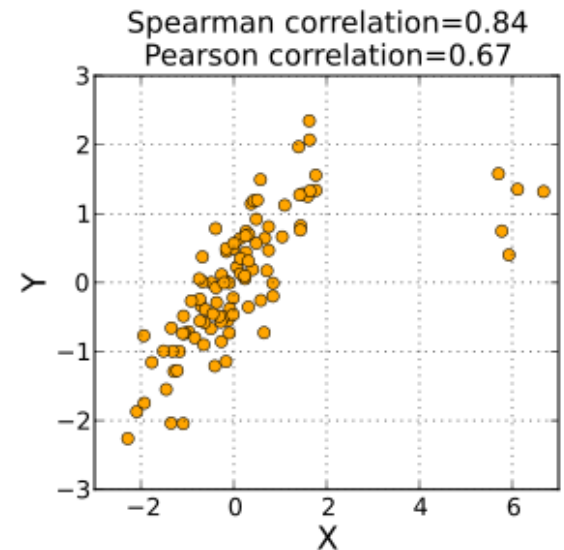
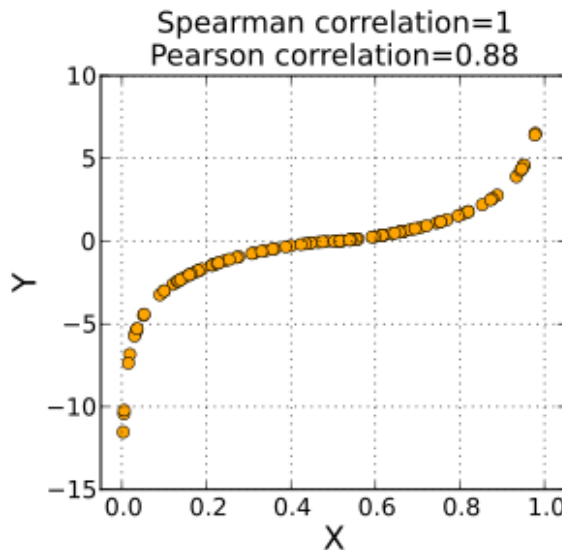
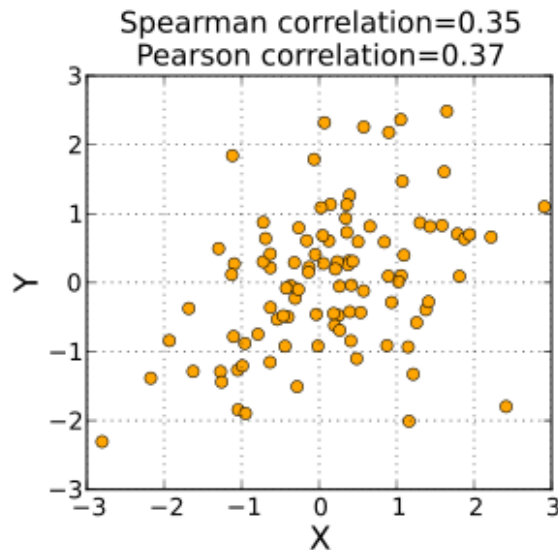


Image borrowed from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spearman%27s\\_rank\\_correlation\\_coefficient](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spearman%27s_rank_correlation_coefficient)

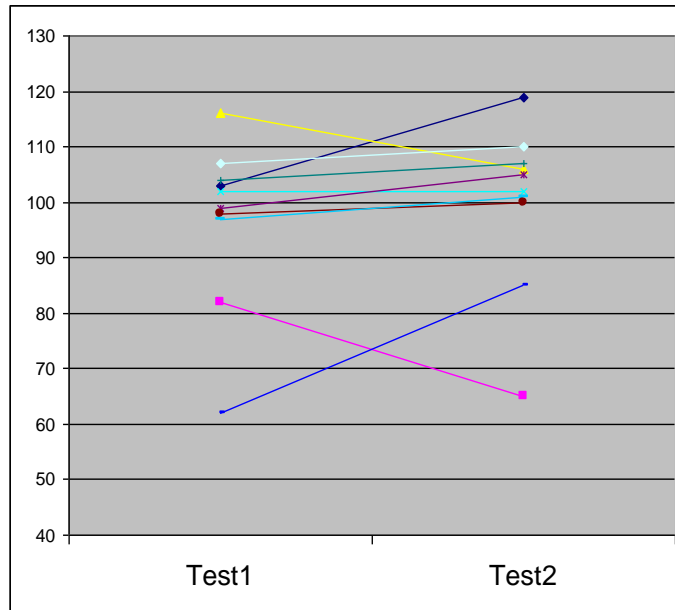


# Pearson vs. Intraclass Correlation

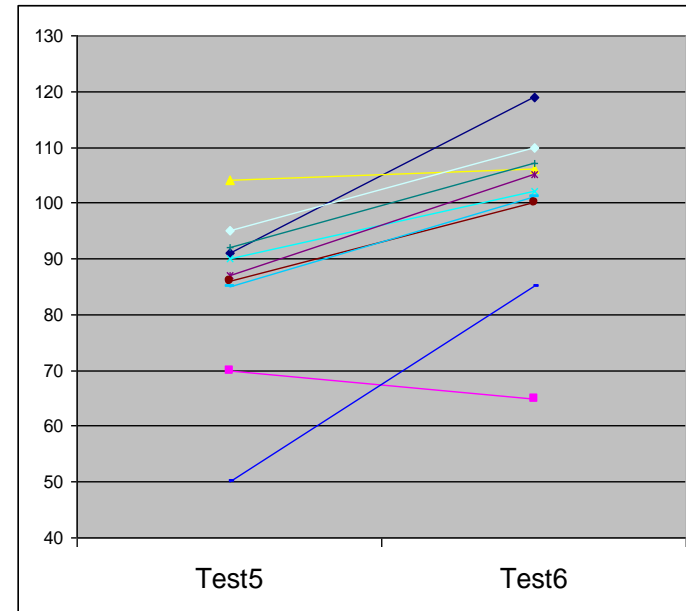
- Correlations are sometimes computed to measure **reliability**: the extent of agreement between two or more sources (variables)
  - e.g., **multiple raters** ( $y_1, y_2$ ) each provide scores for the same set of targets
- **Pearson's  $r$  is problematic for reliability**, because it ignores differences in mean and variance across raters by standardizing each variable separately
- Solution: use an "**Intraclass Correlation**" (ICC) instead, which standardizes across all raters using a **common mean and variance** instead
  - For example, for two raters:  $ICC(y_1, y_2) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [(y_{1i} - \bar{y})(y_{2i} - \bar{y})]}{(N-1) * s_y^2}$   
where  $\bar{y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N [(y_{1i} + y_{2i})]}{2N}$  and  $s_y^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (y_{1i} - \bar{y})^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N (y_{2i} - \bar{y})^2}{2N-1}$
  - ICC is also a ratio of variances:  $ICC = \frac{s_{Between-Targets}^2}{s_{Between-Targets}^2 + s_{Between-Raters}^2 + s_{within-both}^2}$
- **ICCs can readily be extended** to more than two raters, as well as to quantify the effect of multiple distinct sources of systematic variance
  - e.g., multiple raters of multiple targets across days—how much variance for each?
  - This is the basis of "Generalizability Theory" (or G-Theory) in measurement

For more info, see: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intraclass\\_correlation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intraclass_correlation)

# Intraclass Correlation Example



$M:$      97                      100  
 $SD:$     15                      15  
*Pearson  $r$*  = .670  
*Intraclass  $r$*  = .679



$M:$      85                      100  
 $SD:$     15                      15  
*Pearson  $r$*  = .670  
*Intraclass  $r$*  = .457

$$ICC = \frac{s_{Between-Targets}^2}{s_{Between-Targets}^2 + s_{Between-Raters}^2 + s_{within-both}^2}$$

# Correlations for Binary Variables?

- The possible **Pearson's  $r$  for binary variables will be limited** when they are not evenly split into 0/1 because their variance depends on their mean
  - Remember: Mean =  $p$ , Variance =  $p * (1 - p)$
- If two variables ( $x$  and  $y$ ) differ in  $p$ , such that  $p_y > p_x$ 
  - Maximum covariance:  $Cov(x, y) = p_x(1 - p_y)$
  - This problem is known as **"range restriction"**
  - **Here this means the maximum Pearson's  $r$  will be smaller than  $\pm 1$  it should be:**

$$r_{x,y} = \sqrt{\frac{p_x(1 - p_y)}{p_y(1 - p_x)}}$$

- Some examples using this formula to predict maximum Pearson  $r$  values →

px	py		max r
0.1	0.2		0.67
0.1	0.5		0.33
0.1	0.8		0.17
0.5	0.6		0.82
0.5	0.7		0.65
0.5	0.9		0.33
0.6	0.7		0.80
0.6	0.8		0.61
0.6	0.9		0.41
0.7	0.8		0.76
0.7	0.9		0.51
0.8	0.9		0.67

# Correlations for Binary or Ordinal Variables

- To solve this range restriction, you may want to report a different type of correlation based on the idea of a “continuous underlying variable” for the binary or ordinal variables ( $\neq$  Pearson's  $r$ )
- Here are four you will hear of in **advanced** quant classes...
  - **Tetrachoric correlation:** between ‘underlying continuous’ distributions of two actually binary variables (not = Pearson or Spearman);
  - **Biserial correlation:** between ‘underlying continuous’ (but really binary) variable and observed quantitative variable (not = Pearson or Spearman)
  - **Polychoric correlation:** between ‘underlying continuous’ distributions of two ordinal variables (not = Pearson or Spearman)
  - **Polyserial correlation:** between ‘underlying continuous’ distributions of one ordinal variable and observed quantitative variable (not = Pearson or Spearman)
- Tetrachoric and polychoric correlations are used in latent variable measurement models for categorical outcomes (Item Response Theory)

# Bivariate Association for Categorical Variables

- **Associations among categorical variables** are more often described using test statistics from **cross-tabulations** (aka, contingency tables)
  - Frequencies of each possible observed combinations across variables
  - Each combination is a "**cell**"; total across a row or column is a "**margin**"
  - All cells must be **independent** (or else you need a different approach)
  - Available in SAS PROC FREQ or STATA TABULATE, TAB2, and CS (for effect sizes)
- For example: relationship of defendant race to death sentence

Defendant's Race	Death Sentence		Total
	Yes	No	
Nonwhite	33 (22.72)	251 (261.28)	284
White	33 (43.28)	508 (497.72)	541
Total	66	759	825

- (Numbers) are expected cell counts for row  $r$  and column  $c$ :  $E_{rc} = \frac{N_r N_c}{N}$

$$\begin{aligned} N_r &= \text{row total} \\ N_c &= \text{column total} \end{aligned}$$

- For  $r = 1$  and  $c = 1 \rightarrow$  Nonwhite Yes:  $E_{11} = \frac{284 \cdot 66}{825} = 22.72$
- For  $r = 1$  and  $c = 2 \rightarrow$  Nonwhite No:  $E_{12} = \frac{284 \cdot 759}{825} = 261.28$

Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). *Statistical methods for psychology* (7<sup>th</sup> ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.

# Bivariate Association for Categorical Variables

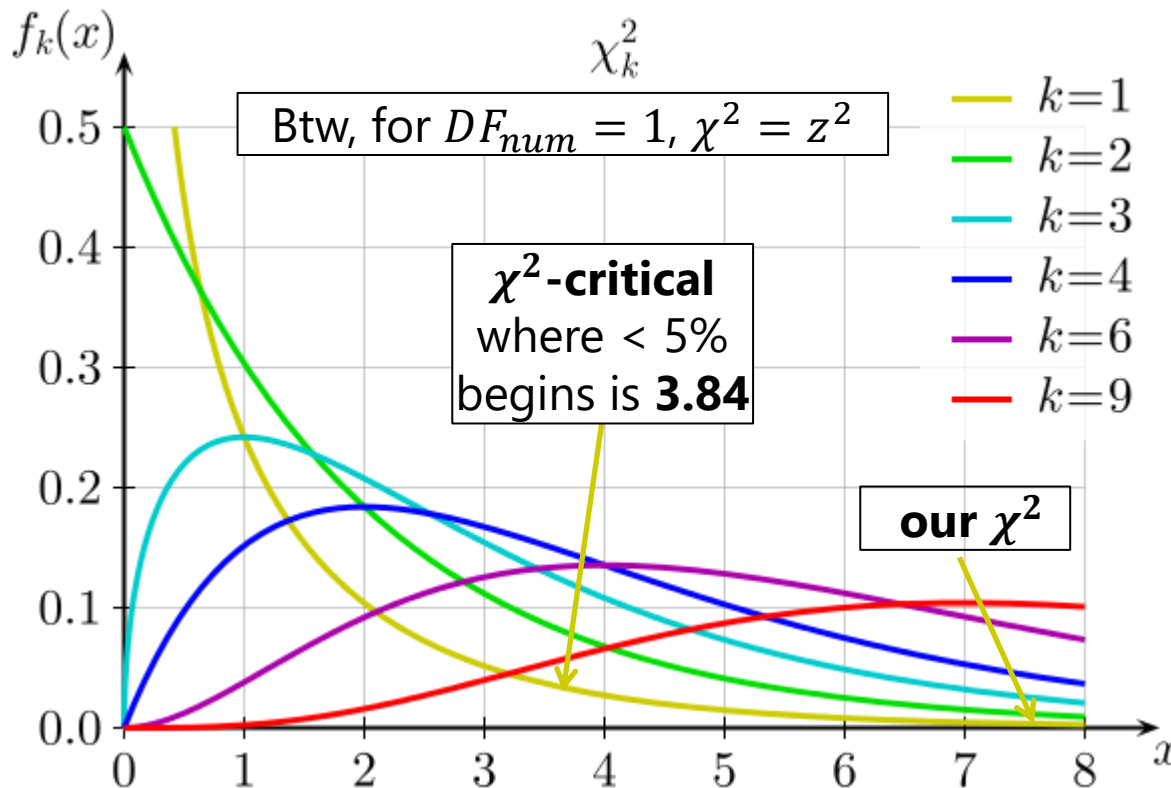
Defendant's Race	Death Sentence		Total
	Yes	No	
Nonwhite	33 (22.72)	251 (261.28)	284
White	33 (43.28)	508 (497.72)	541
Total	66	759	825

- **Pearson's  $\chi^2$  test-statistic** → how far off the expected ( $E_{rc}$ ) from observed ( $O_{rc}$ ) frequencies are for cell  $t = rc$ , summed over  $T$  cells:
- $\chi^2 = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{(O_{rc} - E_{rc})^2}{E_{rc}} = 7.71$  
$$= \frac{(33 - 22.72)^2}{22.72} + \frac{(251 - 261.28)^2}{261.28} + \frac{(33 - 43.28)^2}{43.28} + \frac{(508 - 497.82)^2}{497.72}$$
- To get the  $\chi^2$  test-statistic's critical value ( $\chi^2_{critical}$ ), you need to know degrees of freedom—but in this case, it is **numerator degrees of freedom** ( $DF_{num}$ ) instead
  - Based on  $R = \#$  of rows and  $C = \#$  of columns:  $DF_{num} = (R - 1)(C - 1) = 1$
  - Because  $\chi^2$  doesn't use denominator DF, the label "DF" is sufficient, but I want to distinguish each kind of DF (numerator = relationship parameters tested, denominator = "points" left over from sample size minus parameters tested)
  - $DF_{num} = 1$  is written as  $\chi^2(1) = 7.71$  or  $\chi^2_1 = 7.71$ ;  $\chi^2_{critical} = 3.84$  for  $\alpha = .05$

Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). Statistical methods for psychology (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.

# The Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) Distribution

- The expected value of the  $\chi^2$  for  $H_0 = \text{"no association"}$  is its (numerator) degrees of freedom ( $DF_{num}$ , labeled " $k$ " below)
  - $\chi^2$  has only positive values  $\rightarrow$  only right tail for "unexpected" area



For current example with  $DF_{num} = 1$  (yellow line), our obtained  $\chi^2 = 7.71$  is above the critical value of **3.84 at  $\alpha = .05$** , so we reject  $H_0 = \text{no association}$ , **exact  $p$ -value = .00549**.

The  $\chi^2$  distribution is used more generally to test  $\geq 1$  effects simultaneously, but without denominator DF (i.e., no adjustment for  $N$ ).

# Bivariate Association for Categorical Variables

Defendant's Race	Death Sentence		Total
	Yes	No	
Nonwhite	33 (22.72)	251 (261.28)	284
White	33 (43.28)	508 (497.72)	541
Total	66	759	825

- **Conclusion?** Obtained  $\chi^2_1 = 7.71 > \chi^2_{critical} = 3.84$ , **so reject  $H_0$** 
  - From CHIDIST in excel,  $p$ -value = .00549 → gives the percentage of time we'd find  $\chi^2_1 \geq 7.71$  if there were no association in the population (which is  $\chi^2 = DF_{num}$ )
  - **Conclusion in English?** We need to **determine the pattern** that created this significant result—in this case, this is straightforward to do because there is only one distinction to make across columns or rows ( $DF_{num} = 1$ )
  - **Across columns:** Among nonwhite defendants, there is a greater proportion given the death sentence than would be expected (where "expected" → based on the proportion of nonwhite defendants and the proportion of any persons given death sentences); Among white defendants, there is a smaller proportion given the death sentence than would be expected (based on the proportion of white defendants and the proportion of any persons given death sentences)
  - **Across rows:** Among persons receiving the death penalty, more of them are nonwhite (and fewer of them are white); Among persons not receiving the death penalty, more of them are white (and fewer of them are nonwhite)

Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). Statistical methods for psychology (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.



# Bivariate Association for Categorical Variables

- Pearson's  $\chi^2$  can be used for variables with  $> 2$  categories, but determining the reason for a significant result is then more challenging—for example:

Number of Child Abuse Categories Checked	Abused as Adult		Total
	No	Yes	
0	512 (494.49)	54 (71.51)	566
1	227 (230.65)	37 (33.35)	264
2	59 (64.65)	15 (9.35)	74
3-4	18 (26.21)	12 (3.79)	30
Total	816	118	934

- $\chi^2 = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{(O_{rc} - E_{rc})^2}{E_{rc}} = 29.63$ ,  $DF_{\text{numerator}} = (R - 1)(C - 1) = 3$ 
  - Obtained  $\chi^2_3 = 29.63 > \chi^2_{\text{critical}} = 7.82$ ; reject  $H_0$  (exact  $p = 0.0000017$ )
  - There are 3 unique  $2 \times 2$  ("2 by 2") combinations to consider ("unique" implies that others can be found once you know those 3)
  - You can break the analysis into  $2 \times 2$  tables to see what the patterns are, but this situation is better handled in a *generalized* linear model...
    - Come back in a few semesters for "Applied Generalized Linear Models"! ☺

Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). Statistical methods for psychology (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.

# Other Measures of Bivariate Association You May See for Categorical Variables

- When  $DF_{num} = 1$  (testing 1 thing),  $z^2 = \chi^2$ , and both ignore  $N!$
- $\chi^2$  ***p*-values may not be accurate when any expected cell count < 5**, and so various (non-*t*) “fixes” have been developed:
  - “**Exact**” tests: use simulation (not assumed distributions) to get *p*-values
  - Likelihood ratio test:  $\chi^2 = 2 \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ O_{rc} * \text{Log}_e \frac{O_{rc}}{E_{rc}} \right]$ 
    - Equivalent to Pearson’s  $\chi^2$  in “big enough” samples; shows up in models for categorical outcomes (like “log-linear”; “generalized”)
- **What if some categories are a lot more frequent?**
  - **Kappa** ( $\kappa$ ):  $\chi^2$  used for measuring agreement (e.g., reliability) that corrects for chance levels of agreement
  - Other ways of correcting for disproportionate numbers of people in certain categories (e.g., McNemar’s test for consistency in responses)

# Effect Sizes for Measures of Association

- The **correlation metric**  $r$  is more generally known as an index of “**effect size**”—a **standardized metric** that conveys the size of an effect, irrespective of statistical significance (and  $N$ )
  - Another effect size is  $d$ : standardized mean difference (stay tuned)
- **Test-statistics** (that use both effect size and sample size  $N$  in significance testing) can be **converted back into effect sizes**:
  - e.g., Pearson’s  $\chi^2$  between two **binary variables** is called a “phi” correlation that is exactly the same as Pearson’s  $r$ :  $r = \sqrt{\chi_1^2 / N}$ 
    - However:  $p$ -values may not match! This is because Pearson  $r$  is tested using a  $t$ -distribution with  $DF_{den}$ , but  $\chi^2$  (like standard normal  $z$ ) does not account for  $DF_{den}$
  - e.g., convert any  $t$  test-statistic to an  $r$  effect size:  $r = \frac{t}{\sqrt{(t^2 + DF_{den})}}$
- **Pearson’s  $\chi^2$  has other special types of effect sizes, too...**

# Effect Size via Risk Ratios (Relative Risk)

	Outcome		
	Heart Attack	No Heart Attack	
Aspirin	104	10,933	11,037
Placebo	189	10,845	11,034
	293	21,778	22,071

$$\chi_1^2 = 25.014 >$$

$$\chi_{critical}^2 = 3.84;$$

$$p < .0001 (5.69E-07)$$

- **Risk** = single cell proportion within a row or a column
  - e.g., aspirin: heart attack **risk** =  $\frac{104}{11,037} = 0.94\%$
  - e.g., placebo: heart attack **risk** =  $\frac{189}{11,034} = 1.71\%$
  - *Note that total number of each row is used as the denominator*
  - Difference (= 0.77%) doesn't seem like much, but it's a bigger deal when you consider how small the base rates of heart attacks are
- **Risk ratio (= relative risk)** =  $\frac{1.71\%}{0.94\%} = 1.819$ 
  - Without aspirin, your risk of a heart attack is 1.819 times greater

Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). Statistical methods for psychology (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.

# Effect Size via Odds Ratios

	Outcome		
	Heart Attack	No Heart Attack	
Aspirin	104	10,933	11,037
Placebo	189	10,845	11,034
	293	21,778	22,071

$$\chi_1^2 = 25.014 >$$

$$\chi_{critical}^2 = 3.84;$$

$$p < .0001 (5.69E-07)$$

- **Odds** = ratio of cell frequencies across a row or a column
  - e.g., aspirin: heart attack **odds** =  $\frac{104}{10,933} = 0.95\%$
  - e.g., placebo: heart attack **odds** =  $\frac{189}{10,845} = 1.74\%$
  - *Note that frequency of other condition in the row is used as the denominator*
- **Odds ratio** (OR) =  $\frac{1.74\%}{0.95\%} = 1.832$ 
  - Without aspirin, your risk of a heart attack is 1.832 times greater
  - With aspirin, your risk of a heart attack is 0.546 times smaller
    - Thus, odds are not symmetric, and that drives me crazy...
  - Odds ratios are common measures of effect size in health-related research

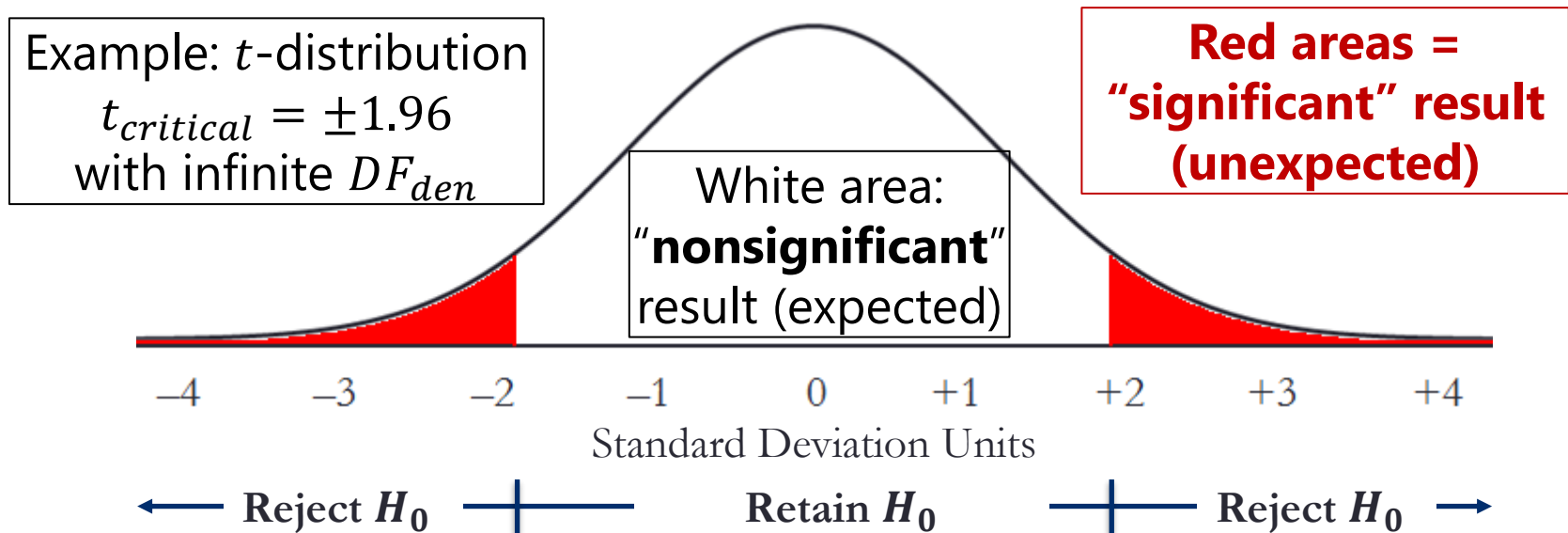
Example borrowed from: Howell, D. C. (2010). Statistical methods for psychology (7th ed). Belmont, CA: Cengage Wadsworth.

# Intermediate Summary

- Measures of **bivariate association** come in many flavors:
  - Two **quantitative** or binary variables: **Pearson's  $r$**  (which measures linear relationships only, has special names of "phi" and "point-biserial")
  - Two **ordinal** variables (or quant with extreme values): **Spearman's  $r$** 
    - Both kinds of  $r$  can be tested for statistical significance against a null hypothesis of no correlation ( $H_0: \rho = 0$ ) using a  $t$  test-statistic with  $DF_{den} = N - 2$
  - Two **categorical** variables: **Pearson's  $\chi^2$**  (which assumes nominal variables; has many related variants to correct small sample issues)
    - Tested for statistical significance against a null hypothesis of no association using a  $\chi^2$  test-statistic with numerator degrees of freedom, such that ( $H_0: \chi^2 = DF_{num}$ )
  - I skipped the combination of quantitative with nominal variables that have 3+ categories, as that is best handled with a model
- In deciding whether or not to claim a result is significant (i.e., to reject  $H_0$ ), we can screw this up in 2 distinct and important ways...

# Significance Tests Require:

- A **distribution** (e.g.,  $t$ ,  $z$ ,  $F$ , or  $\chi^2$ ) that goes with the test-statistic
- A **rejection region** = alpha ( $\alpha$ )  $\rightarrow$  how extreme the test-statistic value must be to declare it “significant” and thus “unexpected”
  - e.g.,  $\alpha = .05$  (95% confidence) implies that a result that extreme must only happen less than 5% of the time if the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) is true
  - You also have to decide if you want the rejection region at both ends (a **two-tailed test**; usually) or only at one end (one-tailed test; rarely)



# Decision Errors in Hypothesis Testing

- Usually, we test a two-sided “null hypothesis”:
  - Typical null  $H_0$ : effect = 0; alternative  $H_A$ : effect  $\neq 0$
- 2 chances to get it right, 2 chances to get it wrong, governed by:
  - **Alpha** ( $\alpha$ ) = expected percentage of **Type I errors** for a given  $H_0$ 
    - Higher alpha  $\rightarrow$  less extreme required to be significant  $\rightarrow$  more Type I errors
  - **Beta** ( $\beta$ ) = expected percentage of **Type II errors** for a given effect size
    - Usually expressed as  $1 - \beta = \text{Power}$ : Probability of finding a true effect
    - More people  $N$  and/or greater effect size = more power (fewer Type II errors)!

	Truth: $H_0$	Truth: $H_A$
Decision: Retain $H_0$	<u>Correct:</u> Really NO Effect	<u>Miss:</u> Type II Error
Decision: Reject $H_0$	<u>False Alarm:</u> Type I Error	<u>Correct:</u> Really IS an Effect



# Decision Errors in Hypothesis Testing

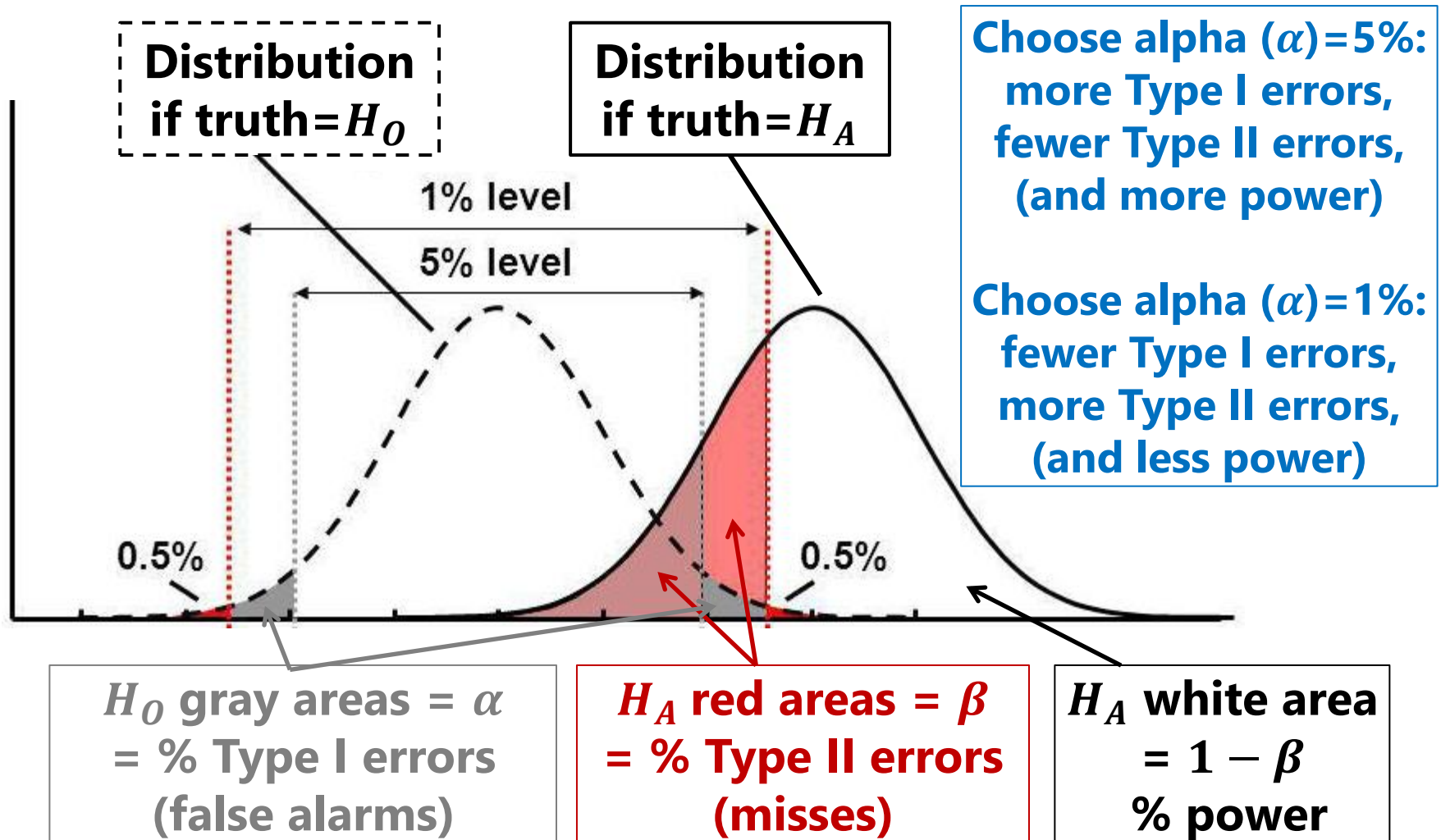
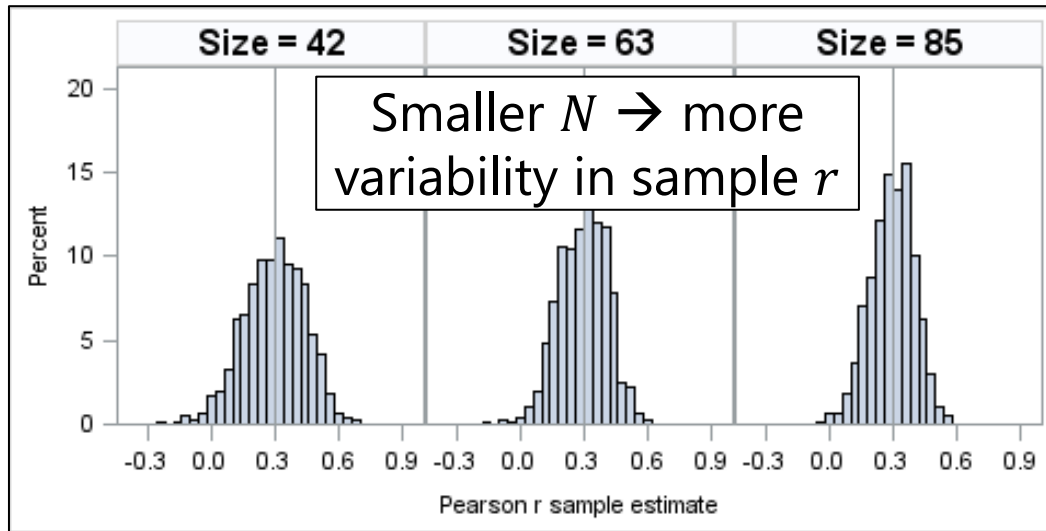
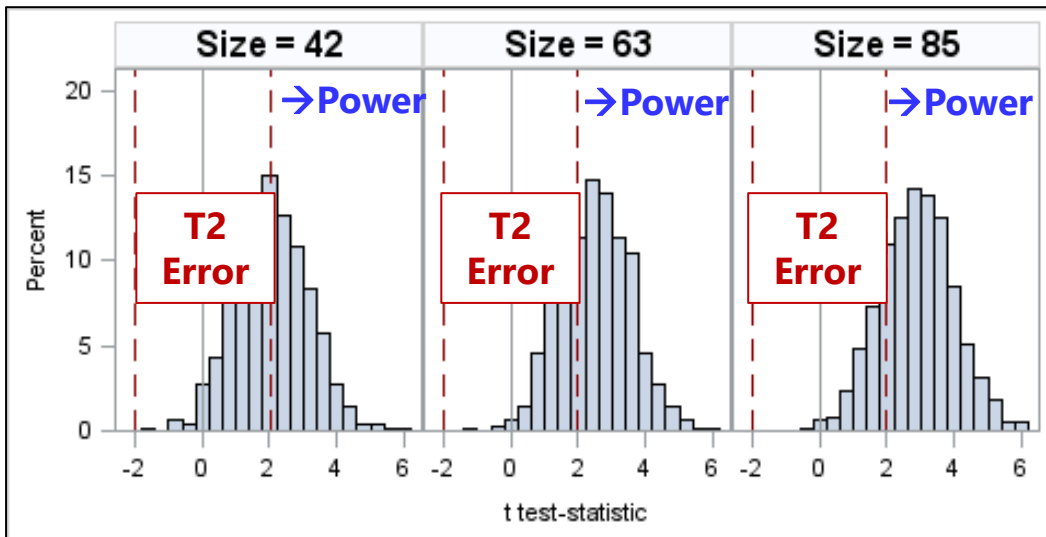


Image borrowed from: <https://images.app.goo.gl/eDuhatsiyKWjrUvcA>

# Anticipating Statistical Power



- Demo: I simulated  $\rho = .3$  for 100,000 fake persons
- Drew 1000 random samples each of  $N = 42, 63,$  or  $85$
- **Power** = % area past  $t_{critical}$  (is greater with more  $N$ )



$N$	Statistical Power: % significant	Type II Error: % not significant
42	50%	50%
63	66%	37%
85	79%	21%

Typical desired power = 80%  
(so Type II error rate = 20%)

# Power Analysis for $r$ Effect Size at $\alpha = .05$ (from Cohen, 1988 p. 102)

	$r$									
Power	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.70	.80	.90	
.25	167	42	20	12	8	6	5	4	3	
.50	385	96	42	24	15	10	7	6	4	
.60	490	122	53	29	18	12	9	6	5	
2/3	570	142	63	34	21	14	10	7	5	
.70	616	153	67	37	23	15	10	7	5	
.75	692	172	75	41	25	17	11	8	6	
.80	783	194	85	46	28	18	12	9	6	
.85	895	221	97	52	32	21	14	10	6	
.90	1047	259	113	62	37	24	16	11	7	
.95	1294	319	139	75	46	30	19	13	8	
.99	1828	450	195	105	64	40	27	18	11	

- If you start with a target  $N$ , it's "**sensitivity analysis**" to find a "minimum detectable effect size"

- e.g., for  $N = 30$ , should have power > 80% for  $r \geq .5$
- e.g., for  $N = 50$ , should have power > 80% for  $r \geq .4$

- Cells give  $N$  for row's power to find column's  $r$
- If you start with target  $r$  to find  $N$ , it's "**a priori power analysis**"

- e.g., for  $r = .3$ , 80% power is predicted for  $N = 85$
- e.g., for  $r = .2$ , 80% power is predicted for  $N = 194$

# Decisions and Decision Errors: Summary

For every hypothesis test, the following will be reported in a known format:

- **Estimate** of parameter (from a model); value of obtained **test-statistic** ( $t$ ,  $z$ ,  $F$ , or  $\chi^2$ )
- **Numerator degrees of freedom** ( $DF_{num}$ ) when testing more than one relationship parameter simultaneously (used with  $F$  or  $\chi^2$ ;  $DF_{num} = 1$  for  $t$  or  $z$ )
- **Denominator degrees of freedom** ( $DF_{denominator}$ ) when not assuming infinite sample size (used with  $t$  or  $F$ ; not used with  $z$  or  $\chi^2$ )
- **p-value**: probability of obtained test-statistic if null hypothesis  $H_0$  is true
- **Effect size** (e.g.,  $r$ ,  $d$ , or odds ratio )—you have an  $r$  effect size already if your association is a type of correlation (or else compute it); effect size CIs are nice to include, too

Conditional on your decision about significance, what can happen?

- If you **reject  $H_0$**  and claim your result as “**significant**” given your chosen alpha ( $\alpha$ ):
  - **DO** have to worry about probability of **Type I error** (given by your  $p$ -value): **a false alarm**
  - DO NOT have to worry about the probability of a Type II error: a miss
  - Power is related to replicability—a significant result with low power is less likely to replicate!
- If you **retain  $H_0$**  and claim your result as “**nonsignificant**” given your chosen alpha ( $\alpha$ ):
  - DO NOT have to worry about probability of Type I error (given by your  $p$ -value): a false alarm
  - **DO** have to worry about the probability of a **Type II error: a miss** (power = 1 – Type II error)
  - In planning studies, the conventional level of power to aim for is 80% (harder to do with smaller effects)