

Experimental Design

- started as set of notes from great lecture by Gene Galluscia
(BMC prof, now retired)
- Exp. design: how to design an experiment —
what to measure, (metrics)
treatment \leftrightarrow indep vars, control
- so -- background: scope out & generalize answer
then narrows in a factorial design
↓
ANOVA analysis

- First consideration:

formulate a hypothesis

"I'd bet this
would happen if..."

based on assumptions,
theory lit review

vs. "I wonder what
would happen if..."

— Galileo's called
"empty-minded research"
not based on any
assumption

- exp. design often drawn from H_0 : The null hypothesis: you hypothesize no effect
- no measurable, observable difference between conditions
- you hope to reject H_0

if there is a difference, you reject H_0 ,
accept H_a - the alternative
that there was effect

ex. new drug:
 H_0 : no effect

ex. headache pill
group 1: gets placebo, group 2: gets
"advil"

- Forms of Inquiry

- experiments vs. observational studies

- lab vs. field

- idiographic vs. nomothetic research

study of an
individual

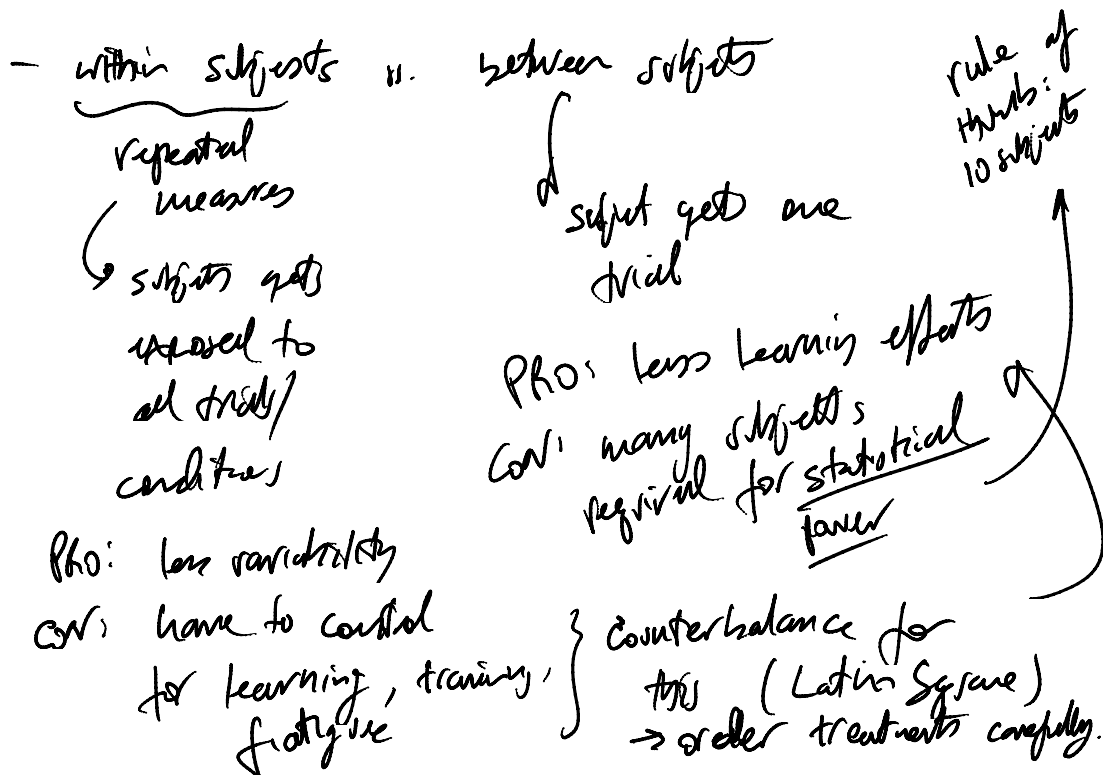
studied
large populations

} generalizability

single case studies
clinical studies

can still hope to generalize
from this — e.g. Phineas Gage

(chunk of brain missing) \Rightarrow frontal lobe
 \rightarrow "seat of personality"?

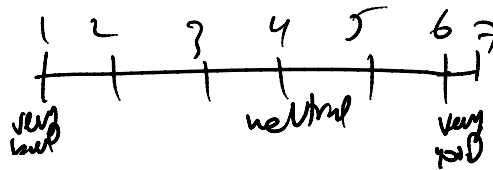


- rule of thumb: 10 subjects
- better: power study
- important to know the nature of scale of what's being measured (dep. variable)

scales:

equality ————— same numbers mean same amount Likert-type
 rank order ————— higher values mean "more"
 equal interval, ————— diff. between 2,3 = diff. 5,6)
 equal ratios —————

e.g. quality of Starbucks coffee:



Likert-type questions.

scales for 1-5, 1-7

why not 1-10? usually want a point in
middle - a neutral point.

what the choice of scale has to do with:
what techniques can you use to perform analysis

From Coolican's text.

Measurement Level	Samples	
	Independent	Non-Independent
Nominal	chi-square	(binomial) sign test
Ordinal	Mann-Whitney U test	Wilcoxon signed rank
Parametric	z-test, t-test for independent	t-test

usually testing for differences in the data

stat tests of
difference of sample
pairs (df = 1)

Measurement Level	Samples	
	Independent	Non-independent
Non-parametric	chi-square	Kruskal-Wallis
Parametric	ANOVA	ANOVA

For multivariate data ($df > 1$)

granularity
measured such
as performance
speed / accuracy
time \downarrow # errors

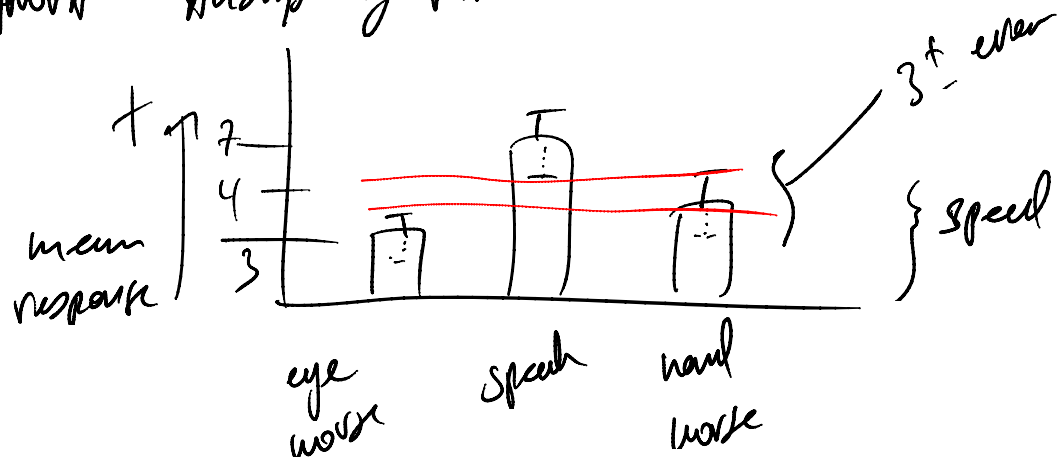
why?

- multivariate data
- parameter data

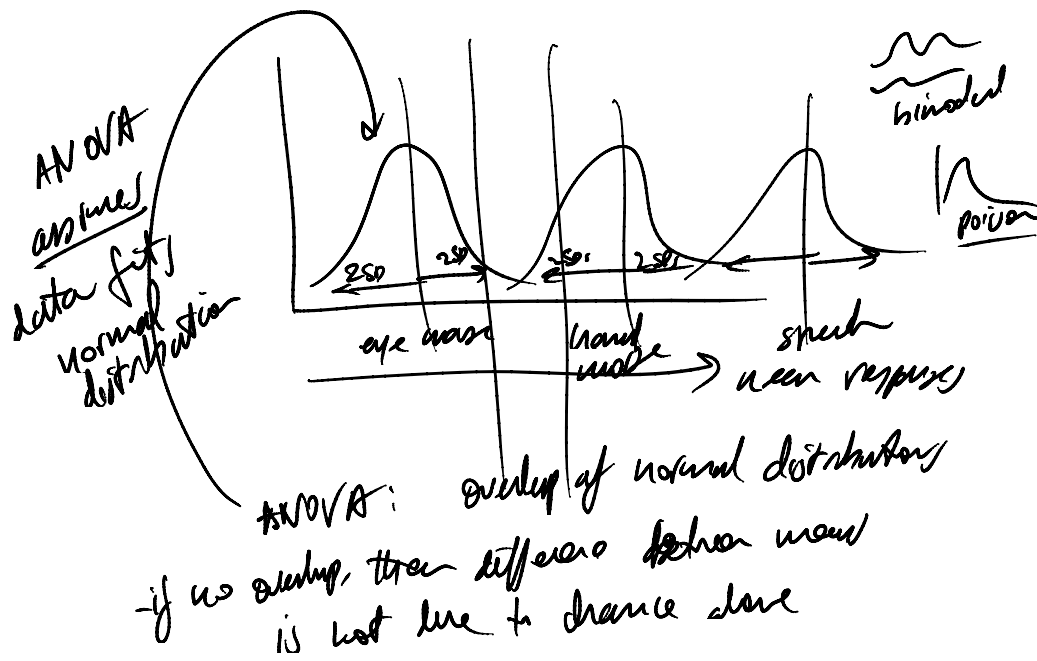
Most often used -



ANOVA: Analysis of variance



ANOVA: is there a difference between the means
or is there overlap
- if no overlap, ANOVA rejects stat. significance



-why is ANOVA used so much in Φ especially?

most human activities
fit the bell curve