



# POWER ANALYSIS

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## Bioinformatics Core: Tasks

- **STATISTICAL DATA ANALYSIS**  
Experimental Design, Hypothesis Testing, Power Analysis Differential Expression Analysis, Cluster Analysis, Time Series Data Analysis, Survival Analysis, Correlation Analysis
- **OMICS**  
Microarray Analysis, Gene Networks, Pathway Analysis, TFBS Identification, Gene Annotation, Integration, Protein Analysis, Drug Networks
- **NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING**  
Whole Exome, Targeted Gene, RNA, miRNA, ChIP, Visualization, Interpretation
- **DATABASE AND SOFTWARE**  
DB Creation, DB Maintenance, Web Sites Creation, Web Service Support
- **BIOINFORMATICS AND (BIO)STATISTICS TRAINING**



## Bioinformatics Core: People



<https://www.tigem.it/research/facilities/core-facilities/bioinformatics>

<https://bioinformatics.tigem.it/>

DIEGO DI BERNARDO



DIEGO CARRELLA



ROSSELLA DE CEGLI



XAVIER BUJANDA CUNDIN



EUGENIO DEL PRETE



## Bioinformatics Core: Something about Me

- **TLC ENGINEER @ UNIVERSITY OF ROME 'SAPIENZA'**  
MAIN TOPICS: Signal Processing, Remote Sensing, Bioinformatics  
THESIS: miRNA Analysis, Genomic Data Mining, Consensus Analysis, PSSM Creation
- **BIOINFORMATICS RESEARCH FELLOW @ INSTITUTE OF FOOD SCIENCES (CNR)**  
Protein Prediction and Classification, Protein Analysis, Proteomic Mass Spectra Analysis, Sequence Alignment and Phylogenetic Tree, Docking
- **PHD IN APPLIED BIOLOGY @ UNIVERSITY OF BASILICATA**  
Celiac Disease and Comorbidities, Microarray Data Analysis, Ontologies, Gene Set Enrichment Analysis, Semantic Similarity, Proteomic Mass Spectra Analysis
- **BIOINFORMATICS RESEARCH FELLOW @ INSTITUTE OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS (CNR)**  
Proteomic Mass Spectra Analysis, Metabolomic (Lipidomic) Data Analysis, Web Tools Developer, Hypothesis Tests, Omics Data Integration
- **BIostatistician and Data Scientist @ TIGEM**



## Outline

### DEFINITIONS

- Sample Size
- Replicates
- Power
- Significance Level
- Effect Size
- Power Analysis

### G\*POWER

- Tool
- Graphical User Interface

### EXAMPLES

- One Way ANOVA
- Repeated Measure ANOVA
- Multi Way ANOVA

### CONCLUSION

- Take Home Message
- Final Remarks



# Sample Size

## Question

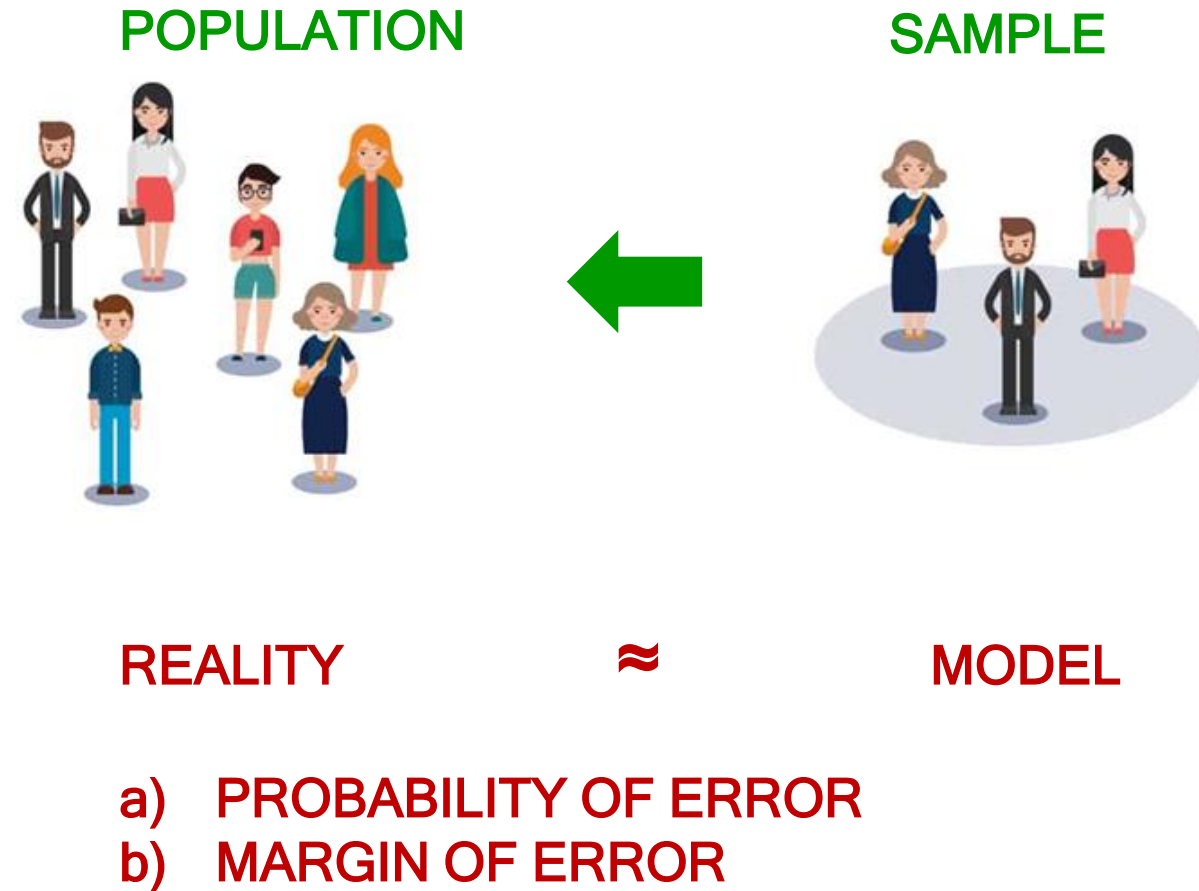
- How many samples do I need for my experiment?

## Problems

- **Impossibility** to collect data from an entire population of interest
- **Too small**: under-detection of effect of interest
- **Too large**: unnecessary wasting of resources and/or animals

## Goal

- Enough samples to **reasonably detect an effect** (if it really exists) **without wasting limited resources** on too many samples





# Replicates

## Technical Replicates

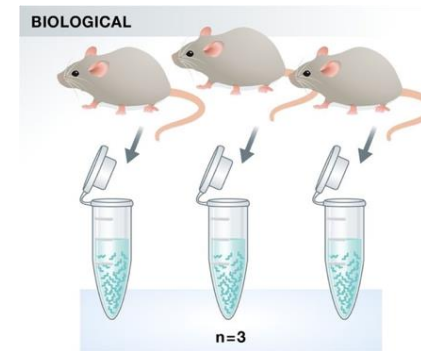
- Use the same biological sample to repeat the technical or experimental steps in order to accurately measure technical variation and remove it during analysis



WITHIN VARIABILITY

## Biological Replicates

- Use different biological samples of the same condition to measure the biological variation between samples



BETWEEN VARIABILITY

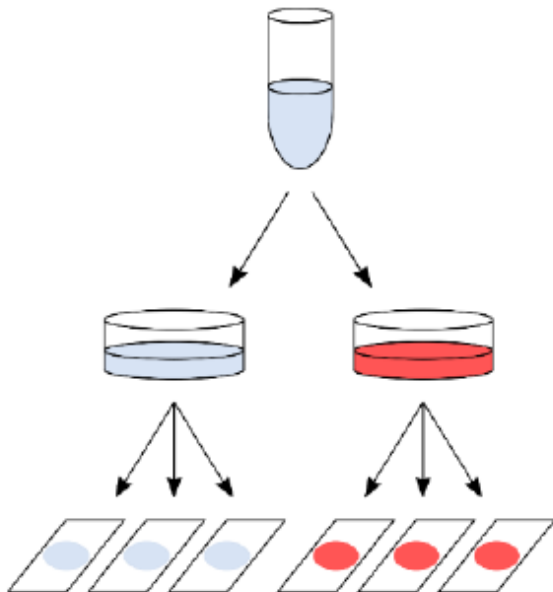
**WHY THREE (3) IS THE 'MAGIC' NUMBER?**



## Focus on: Experimental Design and Sample Size

### Design 1

- Single vial, two culture dishes
- Same time for cellular growth
- Cells counting for the glass slides
- Which is the sample size?



ANSWER: N = 1

There is not independence between the three glass slides within the two conditions

AND

The variability among the glass slides is only due to pipetting error.

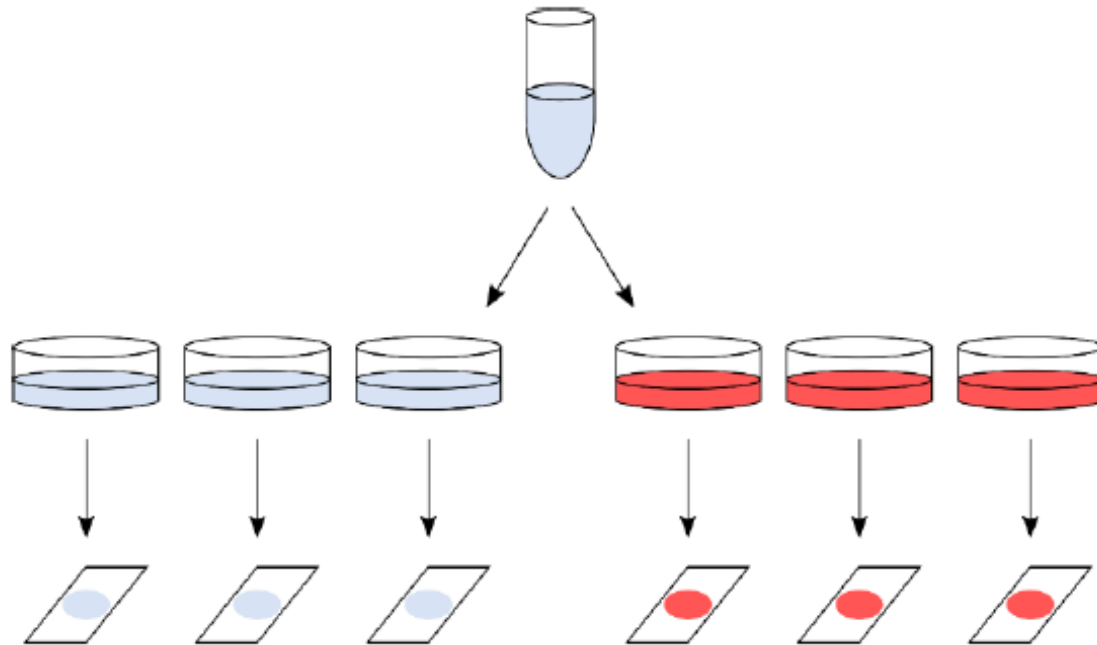




## Focus on: Experimental Design and Sample Size

### Design 2

- Single vial, six culture dishes
- Same time for cellular growth
- Cells counting for the glass slides
- Which is the sample size?



ANSWER: N = 1

The glass slides are processed in the same day, same medium, same incubator, and same time.

AND

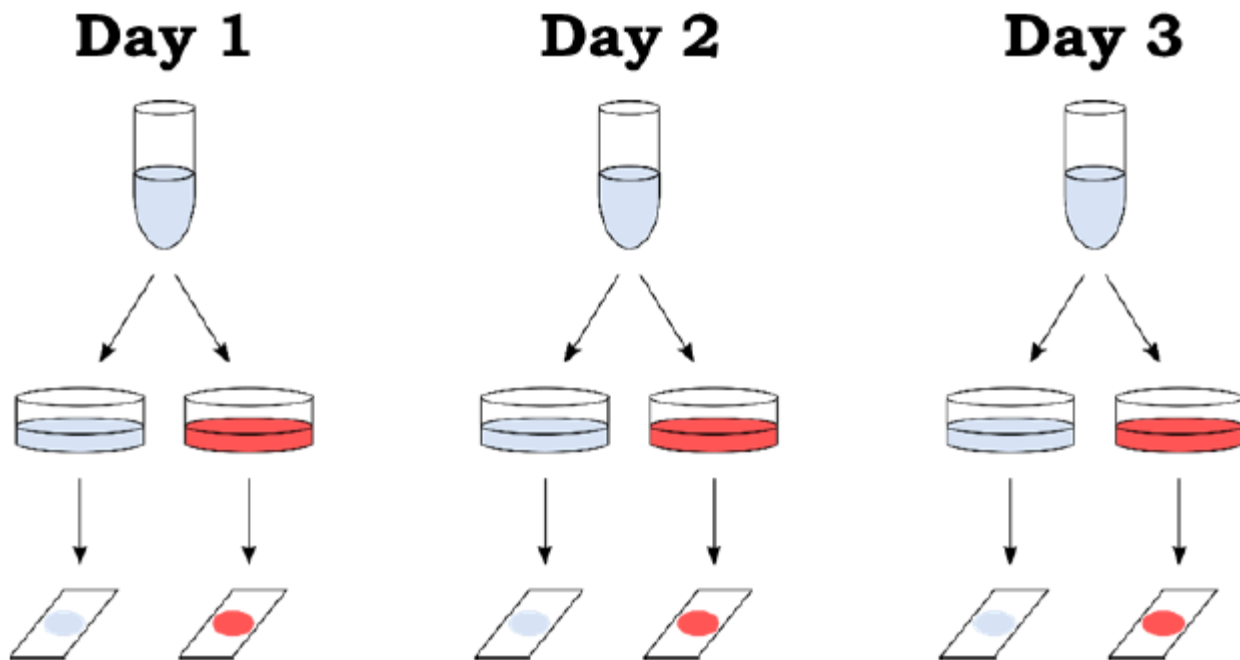
Different plastic does not provide independence.



## Focus on: Experimental Design and Sample Size

### Design 3

- Three vials, one sample, six culture dishes
- Three time for cellular growth
- Cells counting for the glass slides
- Which is the sample size?



ANSWER: N = 3

Three different times introduce the independence, even if the variability is still more technical than biological

AND

The glass slides for each time are paired



# Focus on: Experimental Design and Sample Size

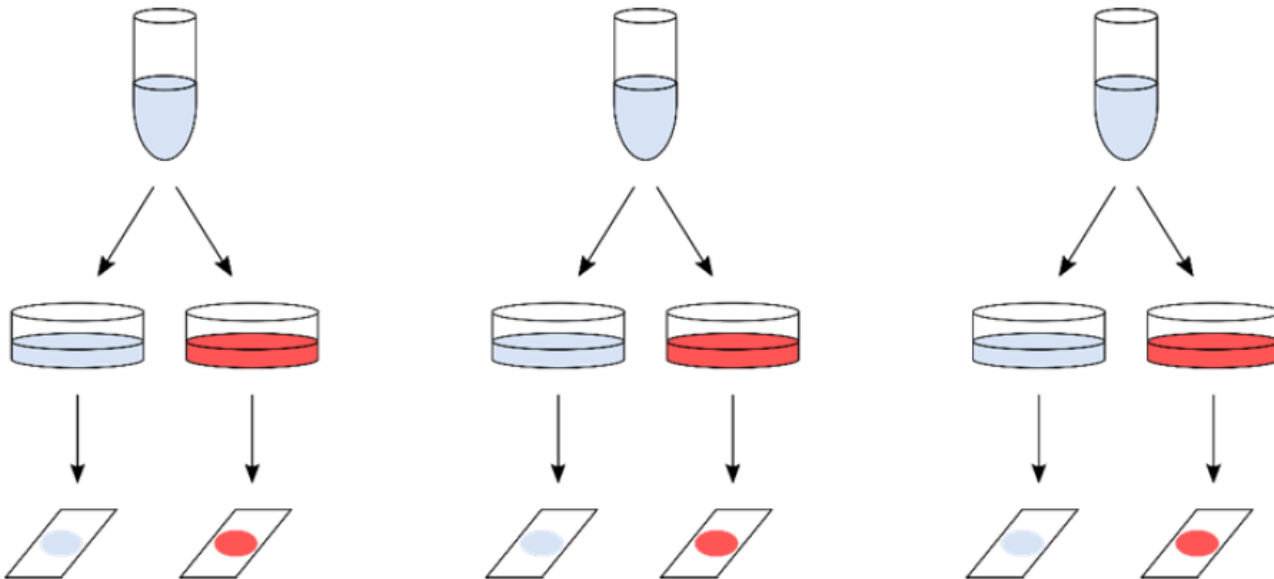
## Design 4

- Three vials, three samples, six culture dishes
- Same time for cellular growth
- Cells counting for the glass slides
- **Which is the sample size?**

person/animal/plant 1

person/animal/plant 2

person/animal/plant 3



ANSWER: N = 3

Three independent samples provides biological replicates

AND

The glass slides for each sample are paired

AND

Pay attention to batch effects (e.g., litter)



# Power and Significance Level

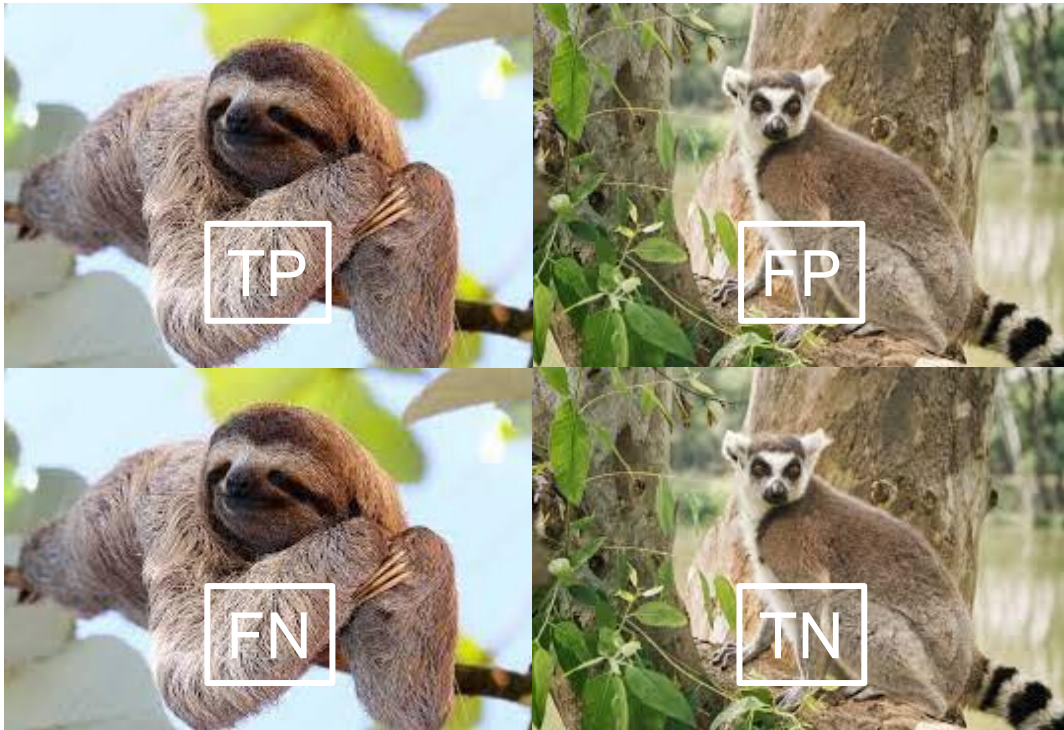
● H0: LEMUR (NOT SLOTH)

## REALITY

H0 FALSE

H0 TRUE

STUDY FINDINGS  
 REJECT H0  
 ACCEPT H0



**TRUE POSITIVE (TP) - POWER (1-β)**  
 Probability to REJECT H0 when H0 is FALSE

**FALSE POSITIVE (FP) - TYPE I ERROR, α**  
 Probability to REJECT H0 when H0 is TRUE

**FALSE NEGATIVE (FN) - TYPE II ERROR, β**  
 Probability to ACCEPT H0 when H0 is FALSE

**TRUE NEGATIVE (TN)**  
 Probability to ACCEPT H0 when H0 is TRUE



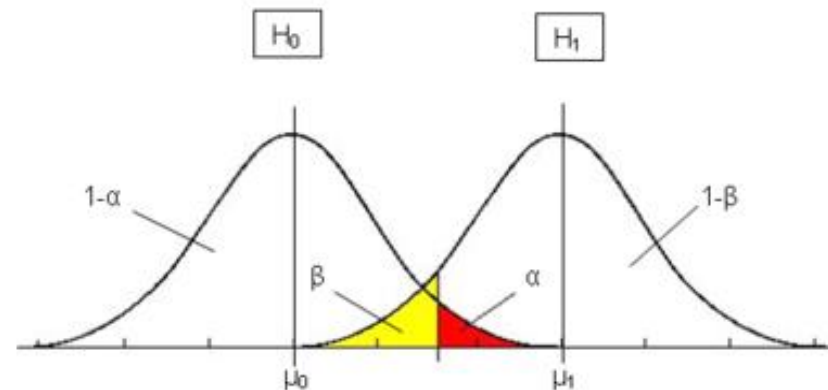
## Power and Significance Level

### ● Power ( $1-\beta$ )

- Probability to reject a **false** null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) when the alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ) is **true**
- Probability of detecting a **true difference** (there is a difference to detect)
- Direct relation with the **Type II Error**

### ● Significance Level ( $\alpha$ )

- Probability to reject a **false** null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) when the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) is **true**
- Probability of detecting a **false difference** (there is not a difference to detect)
- It is the **Type I Error**





# Effect Size

## Considerations

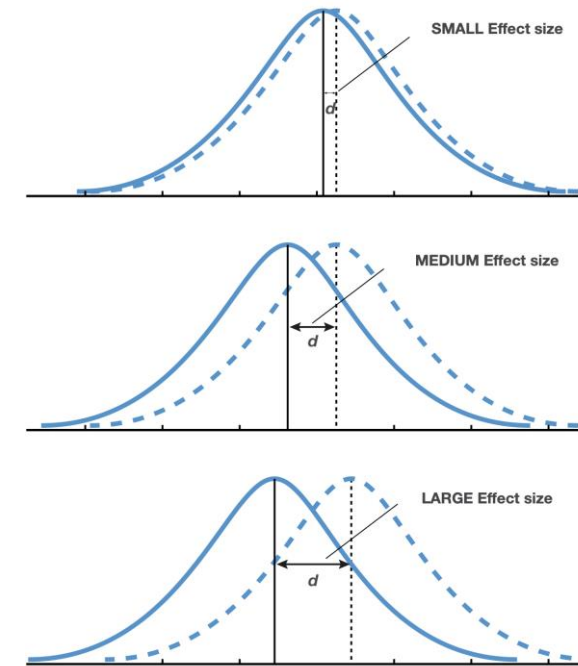
- Property of the sample data (unlike power and significance level)
- To be **estimated**
- Different **statistical tests** have **different values** for each category

## Estimation

- Background information from **preliminary data** or **trial data** or similar study
- **Convention** (forced or not)

## Formula (Generic)

$$Effect\ Size \approx \frac{Mean\ of\ H1 - Mean\ of\ H0}{Standard\ Deviation}$$



| Test                   | Relevant effect size | Effect Size Threshold |        |       |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|
|                        |                      | Small                 | Medium | Large |
| t-test for means       | d                    | 0.2                   | 0.5    | 0.8   |
| F-test for ANOVA       | f                    | 0.1                   | 0.25   | 0.4   |
| t-test for correlation | r                    | 0.1                   | 0.3    | 0.5   |
| Chi-square             | w                    | 0.1                   | 0.3    | 0.5   |
| 2 proportions          | h                    | 0.2                   | 0.5    | 0.8   |



# Power Analysis

## Hypothesis

- Biological question
- One Tail or Two Tails test

## Experimental Design

- Variables (Treatment, Timepoint, Dose, Sex, ...)

## Statistical Test

- Comparison of interest
- Type of variables

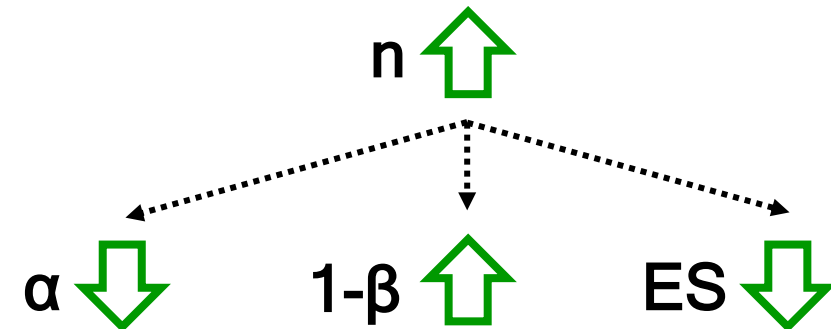
## Parameters

- Power (1-β)
- Significance Level (α)
- Effect Size (ES)
- Sample Size (n)

One Tail:  $\begin{cases} H_0: \mu_0 > \mu_1 \text{ or } H_0: \mu_0 < \mu_1 \\ H_1: \mu_0 < \mu_1 \text{ or } H_1: \mu_0 > \mu_1 \end{cases}$

Two Tails:  $\begin{cases} H_0: \mu_0 = \mu_1 \\ H_1: \mu_0 \neq \mu_1 \end{cases}$

**WHICH IS THE LINK WITH n AMONG THE PARAMETERS?**





## Focus on: Type of Power Analysis

### ● A Priori Power Analysis

- Determine how many samples you will need to have a good chance of detecting an effect of a specified size with the desired amount of power



**GIVEN  $\alpha$ ,  $1-\beta$ , ES  
THEN COMPUTE  $n$**

A priori analyses are performed as **part of the research planning process**. They allow you to determine the sample size you need in order to reach a desired level of power.

### ● A Posteriori Power Analysis

- Allow to find how much power you would have if you had a specified and sufficient number of samples when you had already conducted a research



**GIVEN  $\alpha$ ,  $n$ , ES  
THEN COMPUTE  $1-\beta$**

Post hoc analyses are performed after your study has been conducted and can be used to assist in **explaining any potential non-significant results**.





# G\*Power

## Availability

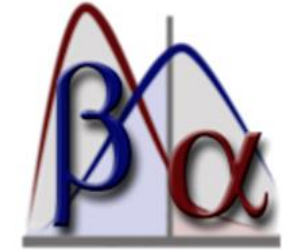
- WINDOWS: 3.1.9.7 (March 2020)
- MAC: 3.1.9.6 (February 2020)

## Statement

- Free software for everyone
- Downloadable from the webpage
- Screenshot without asking permissions

## Analysis Type

- Selection for the parameter of interest
- Selection for the test of interest



| Analysis Type | Calculated Value               |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| A priori      | Required sample size           |
| Compromise    | Implied power and alpha values |
| Criterion     | Required alpha value           |
| Post hoc      | Achieved power                 |
| Sensitivity   | Required effect size           |

**EXACT: 8 specific + 1 general**  
**F-TEST: 16 specific + 1 general**  
**T TEST: 11 specific + 1 general**  
**X<sup>2</sup> TEST: 2 specific + 1 general**  
**Z TEST: 7 specific + 1 general**



# G\*Power GUI

Central and noncentral distributions Protocol of power analyses

critical F = 2,4233

Test family: F tests

Statistical test: ANOVA: Fixed effects, omnibus, one-way

Type of power analysis: A priori: Compute required sample size - given  $\alpha$ , power, and effect size

Input parameters:

- Determine
- Effect size f: 0,3261901
- $\alpha$  err prob: 0,05
- Power (1- $\beta$  err prob): 0,95
- Number of groups: 5

Output parameters:

- Noncentrality parameter  $\lambda$ : 19,1519966
- Critical F: 2,4232862
- Numerator df: 4
- Denominator df: 175
- Total sample size: 180
- Actual power: 0,9507614

Select procedure: Effect size from means

Number of groups: 5

SD  $\sigma$  within each group: 10

| Group | Mean | Size |
|-------|------|------|
| 1     | 10   | 50   |
| 2     | 13   | 50   |
| 3     | 14   | 50   |
| 4     | 15   | 50   |
| 5     | 20   | 50   |

Equal n: 50

Total sample size: 250

Calculate Effect size f: 0,3261901

Calculate and transfer to main window

Close effect size drawer

X-Y plot for a range of values Calculate

a) Type of power analysis

b) Test family

c) Statistical test

d) Input parameters (with values)

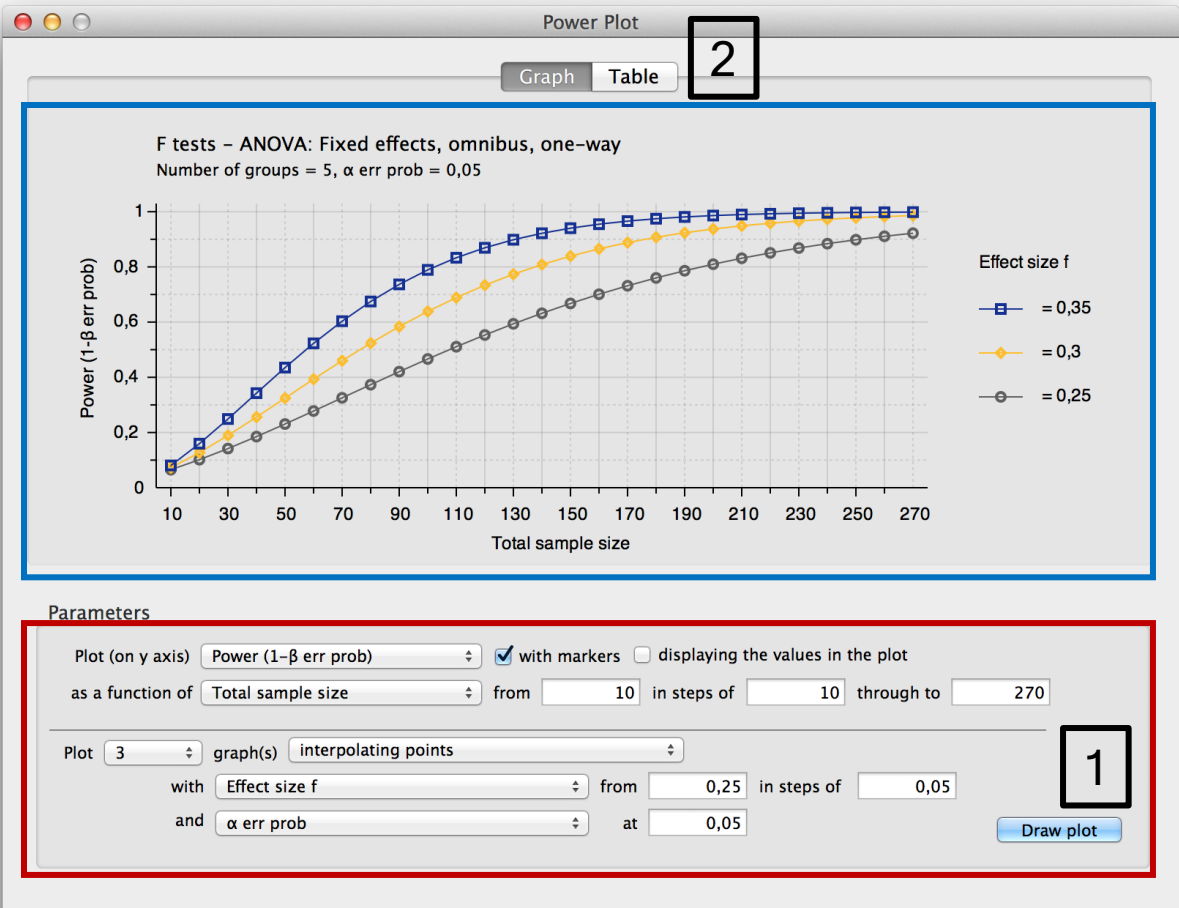
e) Output parameters with density plots

If you click on:

- 1) Protocol of power analysis: Table with I/O parameters
- 2) X-Y plot for a range of values: Plot for parameters



# G\*Power GUI



a) Parameters and attributes

b) Power Plot

If you click on:

1) Draw plot: Power Plot

2) Table: X/Y values in tabular format



# One Way ANOVA

## Description

- Check if at least one mean is different among groups
- Normally distributed (numeric) variables
- Extension of unpaired t-test for more than two groups

## Conditions

- Numeric variables: one **MEASUREMENTS**
- Categorical variables: one **E.G. TREATMENT, TIMEPOINT, DOSE**
- Number of group per categorical variable: more than two
- Details: parametric, unpaired **NORMAL DISTRIBUTION AND DIFFERENT SAMPLES**

## Parameters

- Significance level: 0.05
- Power: 0.80



## One Way ANOVA

### ● Example

- Five different medication regimes on patients after surgery
- Differences in white cell counts
- $H_0$ : no difference among medication regimes;  $H_1$ : difference among medication regimes

### ● What we know

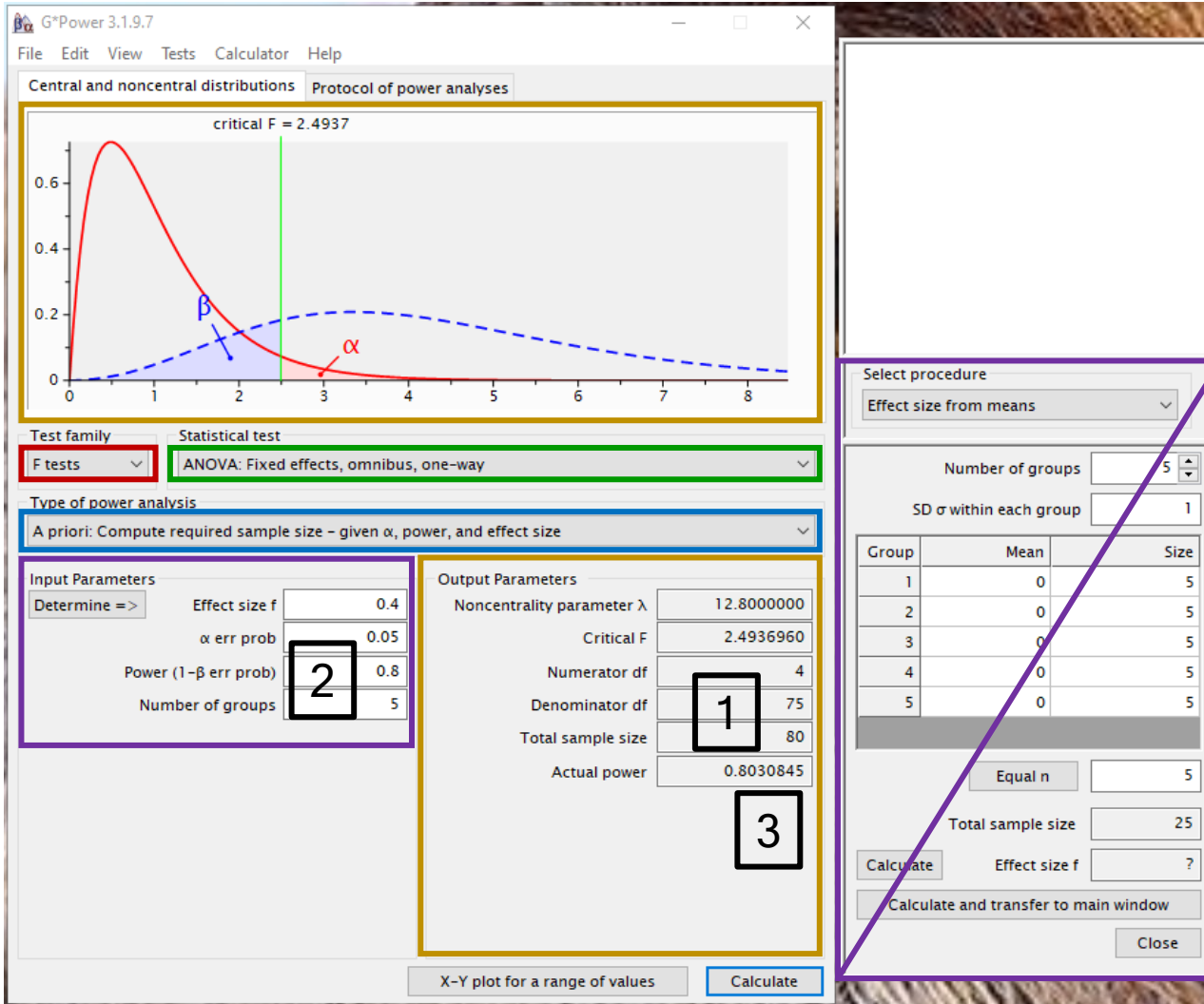
- Number of groups: five
- Number of measurements: one per sample
- Significance level: 0.05
- Power: 0.80

### ● What we guess

- Effect Size  $f$ : 0.4 (large)



# One Way ANOVA



The screenshot shows the G\*Power 3.1.9.7 interface. The 'Test family' is set to 'F tests' and the 'Statistical test' is 'ANOVA: Fixed effects, omnibus, one-way'. The 'Type of power analysis' is 'A priori: Compute required sample size - given alpha, power, and effect size'. The 'Input Parameters' section shows: Effect size f = 0.4, alpha err prob = 0.05, Power (1 - beta err prob) = 0.8 (highlighted with a box labeled '2'), and Number of groups = 5. The 'Output Parameters' section shows: Noncentrality parameter lambda = 12.8000000, Critical F = 2.4936960, Numerator df = 4, Denominator df = 75 (highlighted with a box labeled '1'), Total sample size = 80 (highlighted with a box labeled '3'), and Actual power = 0.8030845. A density plot at the top shows the distribution of the F-statistic with a critical F value of 2.4937. The 'Number of groups' is set to 5 and 'SD sigma within each group' is 1. A table below shows the group means and sizes:

| Group | Mean | Size |
|-------|------|------|
| 1     | 0    | 5    |
| 2     | 0    | 5    |
| 3     | 0    | 5    |
| 4     | 0    | 5    |
| 5     | 0    | 5    |

a) A priori: compute required sample size

b) F tests

c) ANOVA: Fixed effects, omnibus, one-way

d) Input parameters (without values)

e) Output parameters with density plots

RESULTS:

- 1) Total sample size ( $T_{SS}$ ): 80
- 2) Sample size per group:  $T_{SS} / n_g = 16$
- 3) Actual power: 0.801 (check)



# Repeated Measure ANOVA

## Description

- Check if at least one mean is different among groups
- Normally distributed (numeric) variables
- Extension of paired t-test for more than two groups

## Conditions

- Numeric variables: one **MEASUREMENTS**
- Categorical variables: one **E.G. TREATMENT, TIMEPOINT, DOSE**
- Number of group per categorical variable: more than two
- Details: parametric, paired **NORMAL DISTRIBUTION AND SAME SAMPLES**

## Parameters

- Significance level: 0.05
- Power: 0.80



## Repeated Measure ANOVA

### ● Example

- One treatment on patients
- Four measurements of blood pressure after treatment (1, 2, 3, 4 months)
- H0: no difference during time; H1: difference during time

### ● What we know

- Number of groups: one
- Number of measurements: four per sample
- Significance level: 0.05
- Power: 0.80

### ● What we guess

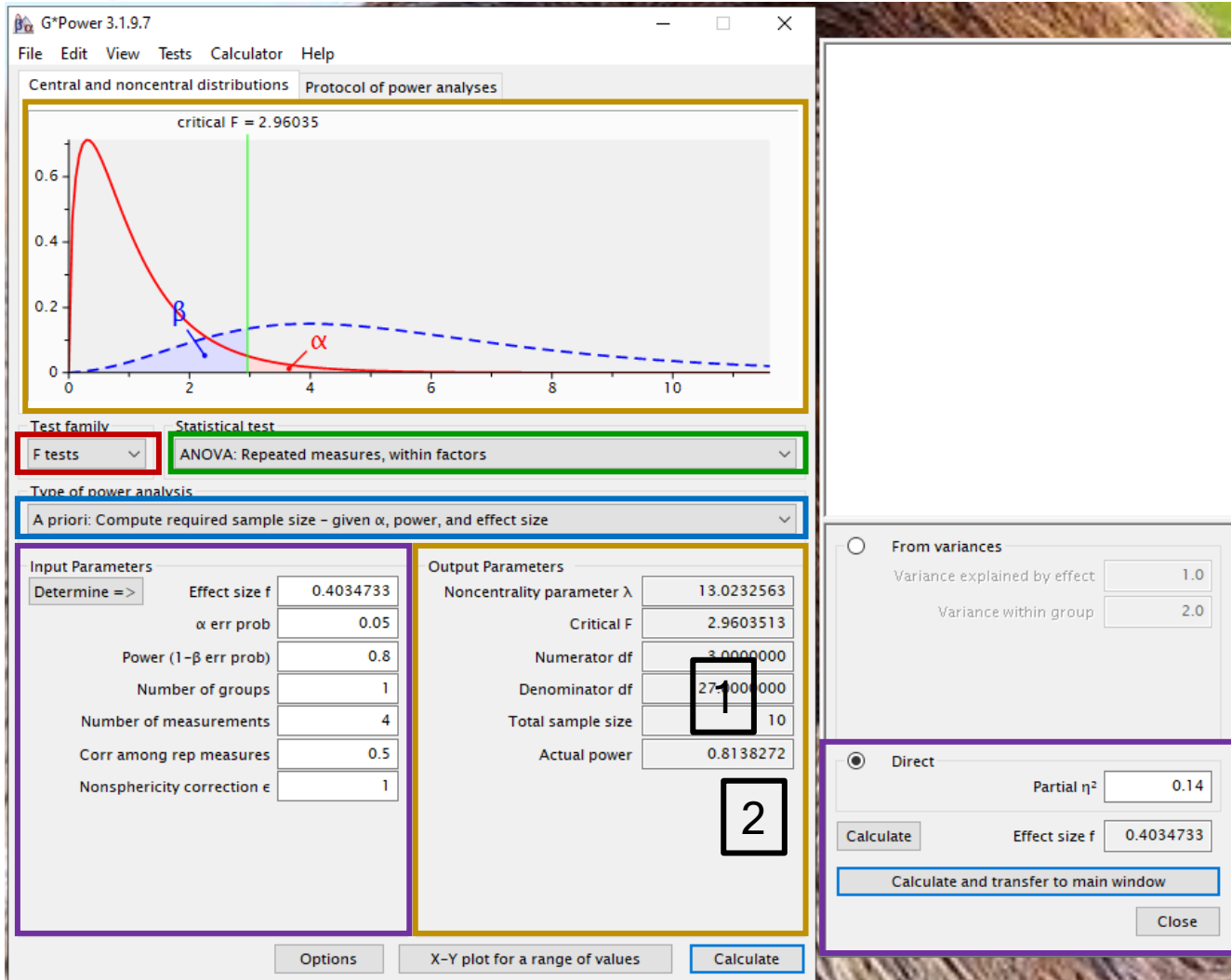
- Correlation: 0.5
- Non-sphericity correction: 1
- Partial  $\eta^2$ : 0.14 (large)

**CORRELATION:** relationships among measurements  
**SPHERICITY:** same differences of variances  
**PARTIAL  $\eta^2$ :** ratio between variances (EFFECT SIZE)





# Repeated Measure ANOVA



a) A priori: compute required sample size

b) F tests

c) ANOVA: Repeated measures, within factors

d) Input parameters (with Partial  $\eta^2$ )

e) Output parameters with density plots

RESULTS:

- 1) Total sample size: 10
- 2) Actual power: 0.814 (check)



# Multi Way ANOVA

## Description

- Define the number of **categories of interest** (one or more than one)
- **Normally distributed (numeric) variables**
- Extension of one way ANOVA for more than one category

## Conditions

- **Numeric variables:** one **MEASUREMENTS**
- **Categorical variables:** more than one **E.G. TREATMENT, TIMEPOINT, DOSE**
- **Number of group per categorical variable:** more than one
- **Number of categories of interest:** one or more than one
- **Details:** parametric, unpaired **NORMAL DISTRIBUTION AND DIFFERENT SAMPLES**

## Parameters

- Significance level: 0.05
- Power: 0.80



## Multi Way ANOVA

### ● Example

- Different treatments on patients (a, b, c)
- Different ages (child, adult, elder) and different cancer stages (I, II, III, IV, V)
- $H_0$ : no difference in treatment across ages/stages;  
 $H_1$ : difference in treatment across ages/stages

### ● What we know

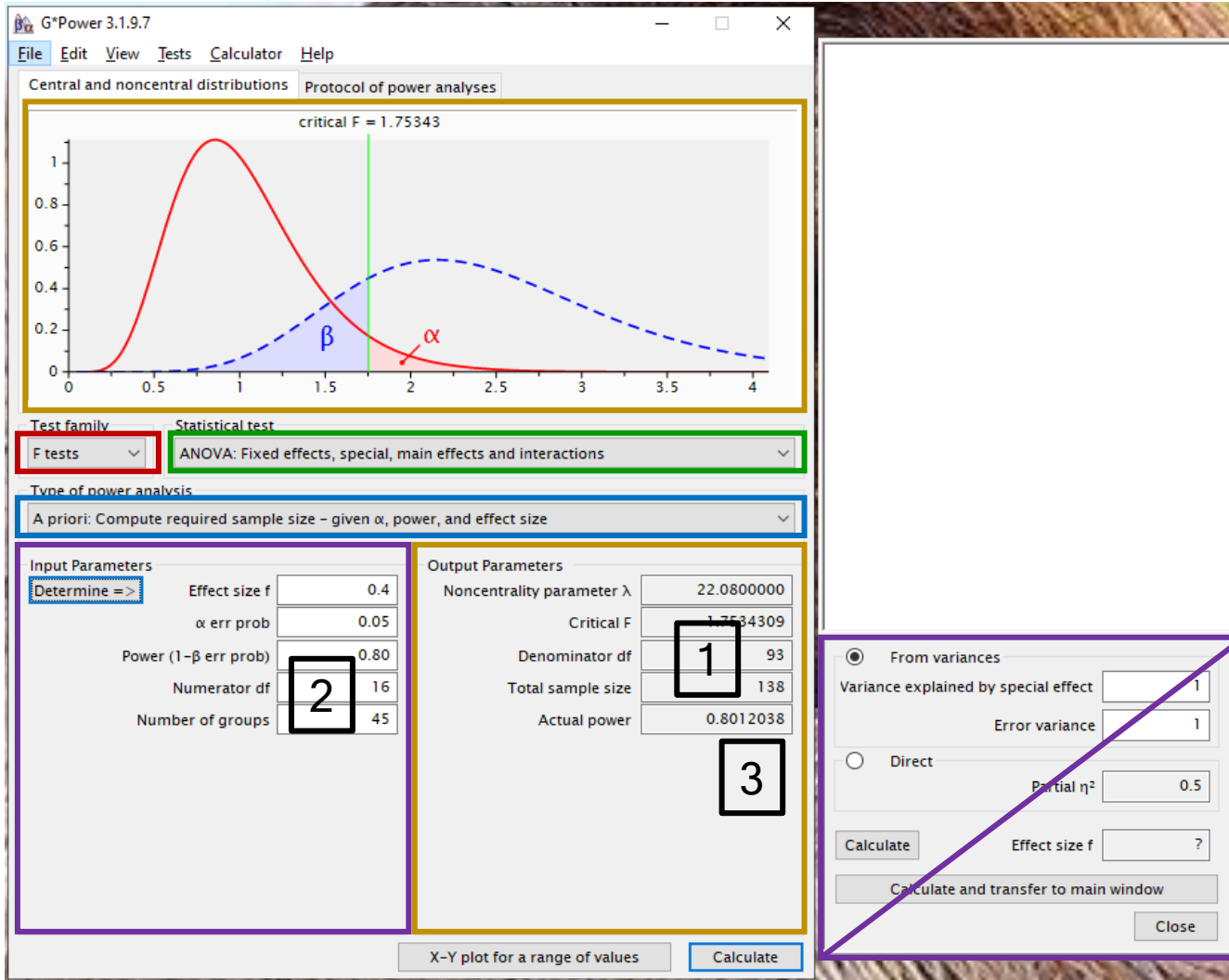
- **Number of groups:** three treatments ( $T$ ), three ages ( $A$ ), five stages ( $S$ ),  $n_g = TAS = 45$
- **Number of degrees of freedom:**  $df = (T - 1)(A - 1)(S - 1) = 16$
- **Significance level:** 0.05
- **Power:** 0.80

### ● What we guess

- **Effect Size f:** 0.4 (large)



# Multi Way ANOVA



The screenshot shows the G\*Power 3.1.9.7 interface. At the top, a graph displays two density curves: a solid red curve for the null distribution and a dashed blue curve for the alternative distribution. A vertical green line marks the critical F value at 1.75343. The area under the red curve to the right of this line is shaded red and labeled  $\alpha$ . The area under the blue curve to the left of this line is shaded blue and labeled  $\beta$ .

Below the graph, the 'Test family' is set to 'F tests' and the 'Statistical test' is 'ANOVA: Fixed effects, special, main effects and interactions'. The 'Type of power analysis' is 'A priori: Compute required sample size - given  $\alpha$ , power, and effect size'.

The 'Input Parameters' section includes:

- Effect size f: 0.4
- $\alpha$  err prob: 0.05
- Power (1- $\beta$  err prob): 0.80
- Numerator df: 16
- Number of groups: 45

The 'Output Parameters' section includes:

- Noncentrality parameter  $\lambda$ : 22.0800000
- Critical F: 1.7534309
- Denominator df: 93
- Total sample size: 138
- Actual power: 0.8012038

At the bottom right, the 'From variances' section is partially visible, showing 'Variance explained by special effect' set to 1 and 'Error variance' set to 1.

- a) A priori: compute required sample size
- b) F tests
- c) ANOVA: Fixed effects, special, main effects and interactions
- d) Input parameters (without values)
- e) Output parameters with density plots

## RESULTS:

- 1) Total sample size ( $T_{SS}$ ): 138
- 2) Sample size per group:  $T_{SS}/n_g \approx 4$
- 3) Actual power: 0.801 (check)



## Focus on: Non-Parametric Tests

- **Not normally distributed (numeric) variables**
  - Peculiar distribution and/or low number of samples
  - Information obtained from a preliminary/previous/similar experiment
  - No relaxation of the hypothesis
- **Rule of Thumb**
  - Compute the **parametric test** and add **15%** to total sample size
  - **Formula:**  $TSS_{NP} = TSS + 0.15TSS = 1.15TSS$
- **Previous Examples**
  - **One Way ANOVA:**  $1.15 \times 80 = 92$
  - **Repeated Measure ANOVA:**  $1.15 \times 10 \approx 12$
  - **Multi Way ANOVA:**  $1.15 \times 138 \approx 159$

**GENERALIZED LINEAR MIXED MODELS**



## Take Home Message

- **Sample size** is the most important parameter to detect a possible effect among different conditions
- **Sample size, significance level, power, and effect size** are strictly connected each other (considering the distribution of variables)
- A **priori power analysis** provides the minimum number of the samples to detect a possible effect, **with fixed values for the parameters**
- Different **types** of a priori power analysis exist, based on the **parameter of interest** and on the **statistical test** to perform
- **G\*Power** is a free, downloadable, and user-friendly tools to perform a priori and a posteriori power analysis

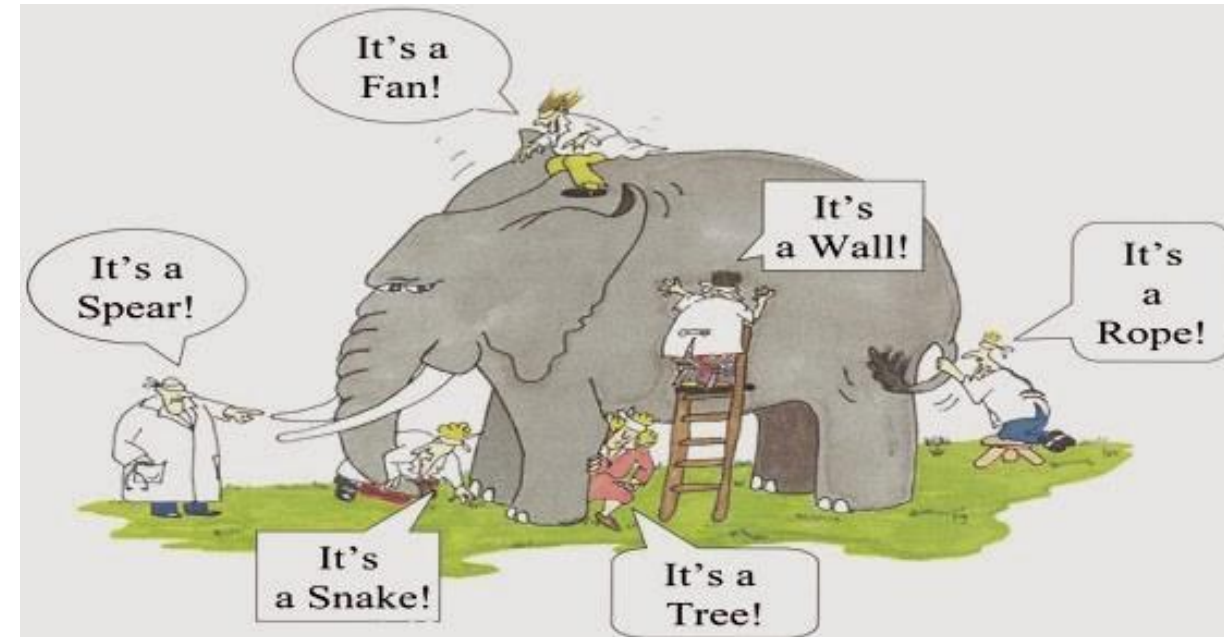


## Final Remarks

To consult the statistician after an experiment is finished is often merely to ask him to conduct a postmortem examination. He can perhaps say what the experiment died of.

*Sir R. A. Fisher*

First Session of the Indian Statistical Conference,  
Calcutta, 1938



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## References

- [1] Faul, F. **Statistical power analyses using G\*Power 3.1: Tests for correlation and regression analyses**, Behavior Research Methods (2009).
- [2] Uttley, J. **Power Analysis, Sample Size, and Assessment of Statistical Assumptions - Improving the Evidential Value of Lighting Research**, LEUKOS (2019).
- [3] Kang, H. **Sample size determination and power analysis using G\*Power software**, Journal of Educational Evaluation of Health Professions (2021).
- [h1] *<https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/training/>*
- [h2] *<https://med.und.edu/research/daccota/berdc-resources.html>*
- [h3] *<https://www.psychologie.hhu.de/arbeitsgruppen/allgemeine-psychologie-und-arbeitspsychologie/gpower>*