

# **MEDSTA 2: Regression models in medical research**

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# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?

		Result of test	
		Keep $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
The truth	$H_0$ true	True negative	False positive
	$H_0$ false	False negative	True positive

# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?

		Result of test	
		Keep $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
The truth	$H_0$ true	True negative	Type I error
	$H_0$ false	Type II error	True positive

# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?

		Result of test	
		Keep $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
The truth	$H_0$ true	True negative $1-\alpha$	Type I error $\alpha$
	$H_0$ false	Type II error $\beta$	True positive $1-\beta$

# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?
  - The probability of rejecting a false  $H_0$

		Result of test	
		Keep $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
The truth	$H_0$ true	True negative $1-\alpha$	Type I error $\alpha$
	$H_0$ false	Type II error $\beta$	True positive $1-\beta$

# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?
  - The probability of rejecting a false  $H_0$

		Result of test	
		Keep $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
The truth	$H_0$ true	True negative $1-\alpha$	Type I error $\alpha$
	$H_0$ false	Type II error $\beta$	True positive $1 - \beta$

# Statistical power

- What is (statistical) power?
  - The probability of rejecting a false  $H_0$
  - $P(\text{Reject } H_0 | H_0 \text{ false})$
  - $P(p < 0.05 | H_0 \text{ false})$
- If the power is low, we do not reject  $H_0$  even if we should have.

# Statistical power

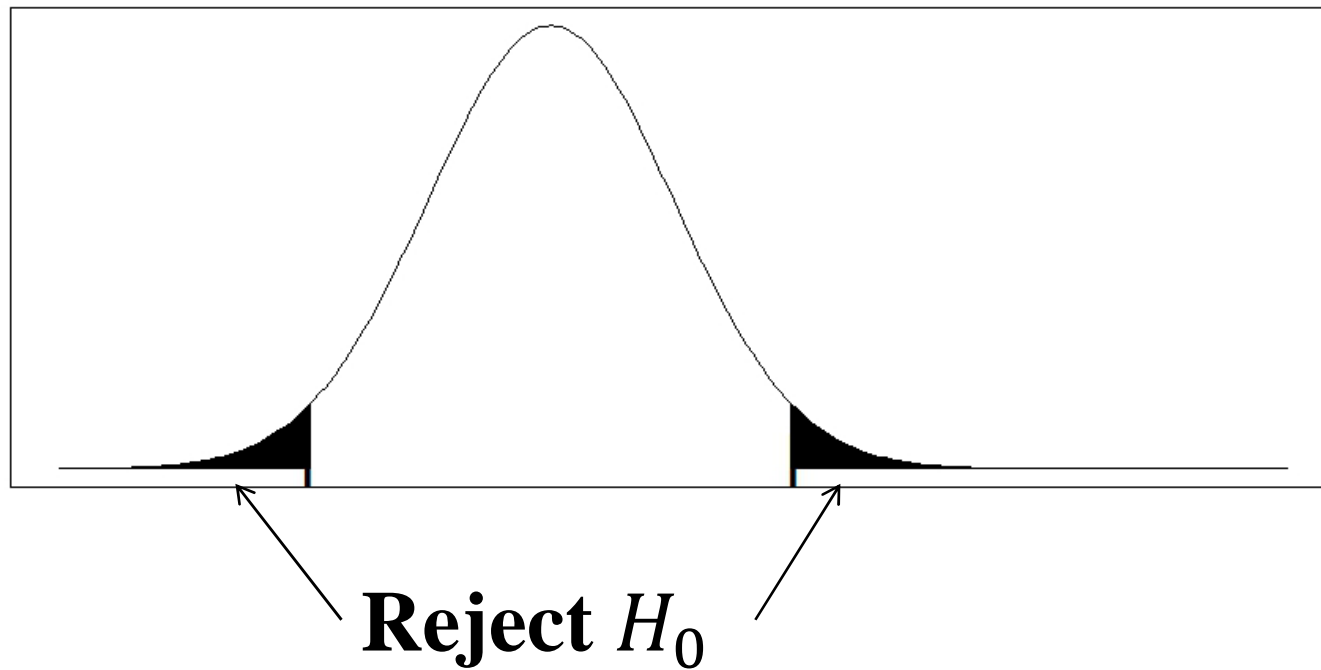
- Consequences of low power
  - More difficult to get financing.
  - More difficult to get approval from ethical committees.
  - We risk wasting our time. Have to rely on luck.
  - Power affects how we have to interpret our results (will come back to this).



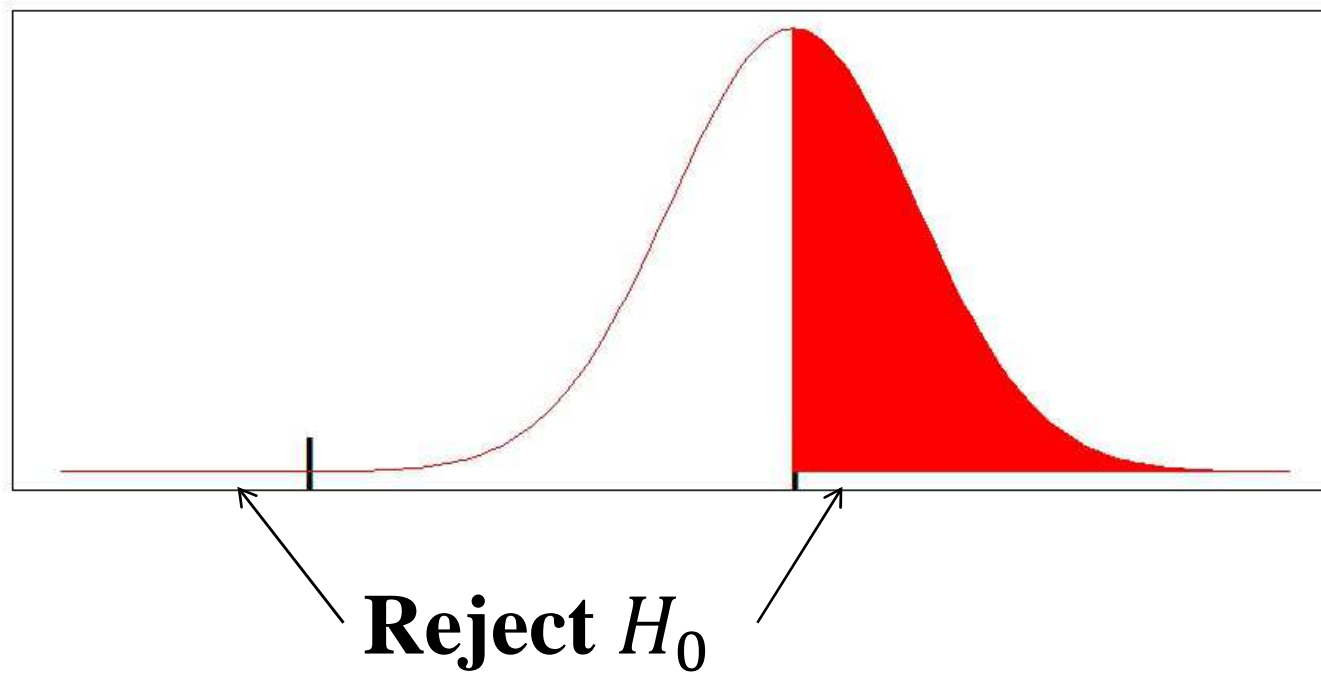
# Statistical power

- Power depends on
  - Sample size,  $n$
  - Effect size,  $\Delta$
  - Significance level,  $\alpha$

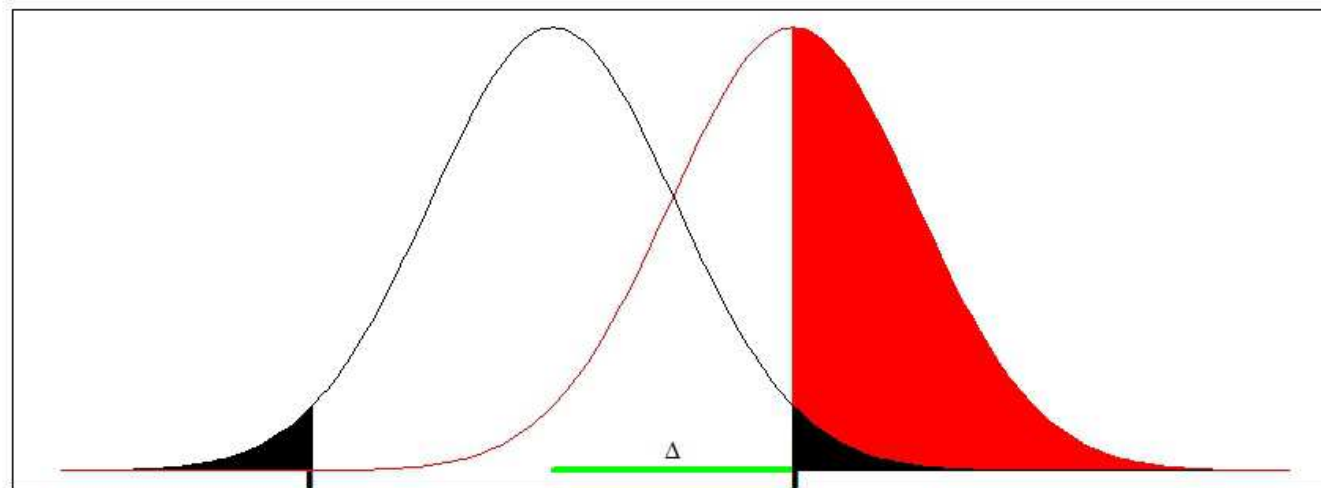
# Statistical power



# Statistical power



# Statistical power



**Reject  $H_0$**

# Statistical power

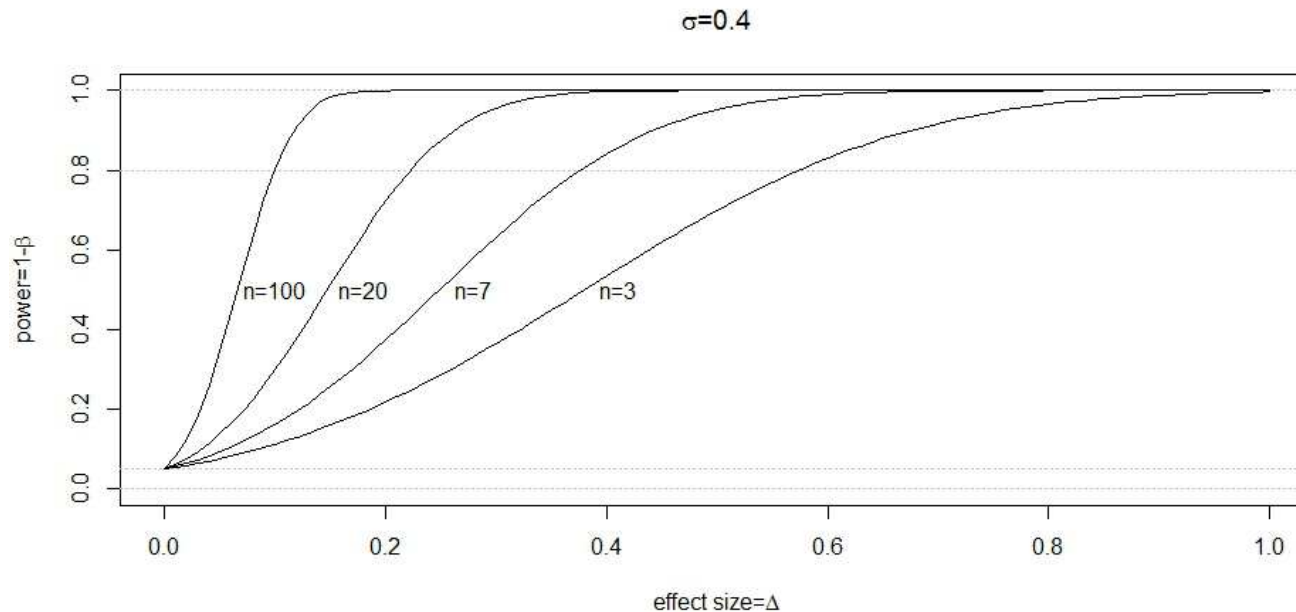
- Power calculations z-test ( $\sigma$  known)
  - $H_0: \mu = \mu_0, \quad H_A: \mu < \mu_0$
  - Power (unknown effect size  $\Delta$ ,  $n$  known)
    - $1 - \beta$
    - $P(\text{Reject } H_0 | \mu = \mu_0 - \Delta)$
    - $P\left(Z < z_\alpha + \frac{\Delta\sqrt{n}}{\sigma}\right)$

# Statistical power

- Power calculations z-test ( $\sigma$  known)
  - Consider a drug to reduce fever
  - Give drug to a group of patients and measure how the fever develops
  - $H_0: \mu = 0$  (no decrease)
  - $H_A: \mu < 0$  (fever drops)
  - Assume  $\sigma = 0.4$

# Statistical power

- Power calculations z-test ( $\sigma$  known)
  - $H_0: \mu = 0,$   $H_A: \mu < 0$
  - Power (unknown effect size  $\Delta,$   $n$  known)



# Statistical power

- Power calculations: z-test ( $\sigma$  known)
  - One sample
  - Consider power =  $1 - \beta$
  - Consider effect size =  $\Delta$
  - One-sided test ( $H_0: \mu \leq \mu_0$  vs.  $H_A: \mu > \mu_0$ )
    - $n = (z_\alpha + z_\beta)^2 \times \left(\frac{\sigma}{\Delta}\right)^2$

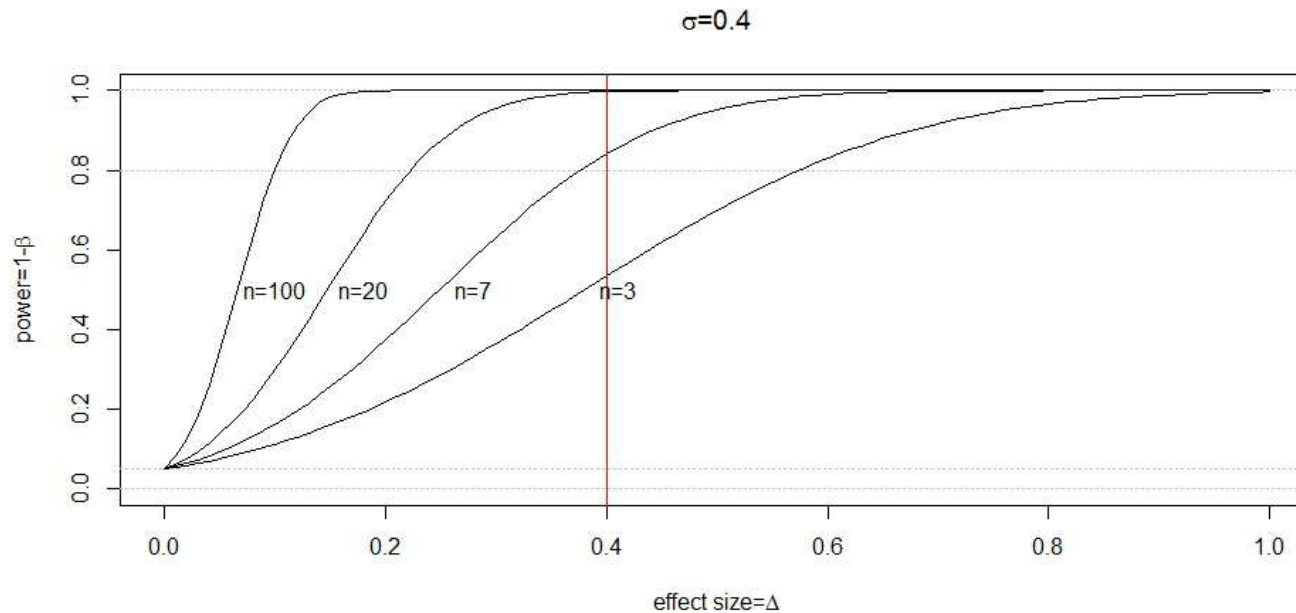


# Statistical power

- Power calculations: z-test ( $\sigma = 0.4$ )
  - One sample
  - Consider power =  $1 - \beta = 0.8$
  - Consider effect size =  $\Delta = 0.4$
  - One-sided test ( $H_0: \mu \leq 0$  vs.  $H_A: \mu > 0$ )
    - $z_{0.05} = -1.65, z_{0.20} = -0.84$
    - $n = (-1.65 - 0.84)^2 \times \left(\frac{0.4}{0.4}\right)^2 \approx 6.1 \rightarrow 7$

# Statistical power

- Power calculations z-test ( $\sigma = 0.4$ )
  - $\Delta = 0.4$



# Statistical power

- Mostly we do not know  $\sigma$  or  $\Delta$ 
  - Use published data
    - Caution! Published effect estimates are often too high because of publication bias.
  - Guess: (« $\sigma = 2$  is too high and  $\sigma = 0.1$  is too low.»)
  - Consider what is clinically relevant («We don't care about  $\Delta < 0.4$ .»)

# Statistical power

- Will not go through the mathematics for
  - T-tests
  - More than one sample
  - Paired observations
  - $\chi^2$ -tests
  - Regressions
  - Etc.

# Statistical power

- T-tests are similar to z-tests
  - Do not assume a known  $\sigma$
  - Power is lower than for z-tests if  $n$  and  $\Delta$  are equal
  - Unless we feel very certain about our  $\sigma$  estimates, we should base the power on T-tests

# Statistical power

- Stata 13 syntax
  - power *method*  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]
- One-sample T-test
  - power onemean 0 0.4, n(7) onesided sd(0.4)
    - 0.7544
  - Default:
    - Two-sided test
    - sd(1), power(0.8) and alpha(0.05)

# Statistical power

- Stata 13 syntax
  - `power method  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]`
- One-sample T-test
  - Omitting `n()` propts sample size calculations
  - `power onemean 0 0.4, onesided sd(0.4)`
    - $N=8$  (for  $1 - \beta = 0.8$ )
  - `power onemean 0 0.4, onesided sd(0.4)`  
`power(0.95)`
    - $N=13$  (for  $1 - \beta = 0.95$ )

# Statistical power

- Stata 13 syntax
  - power *method*  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]
- One-sample T-test
  - Adding n() AND power() AND removing ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) propts effect size calculations
  - power onemean 0, onesided sd(0.4) n(7) power(0.8)
    - delta=1.0667 (delta =  $\delta = \Delta/\sigma$ )
    - ma=0.4267 (ma =  $\Delta + 0$ )



# Statistical power

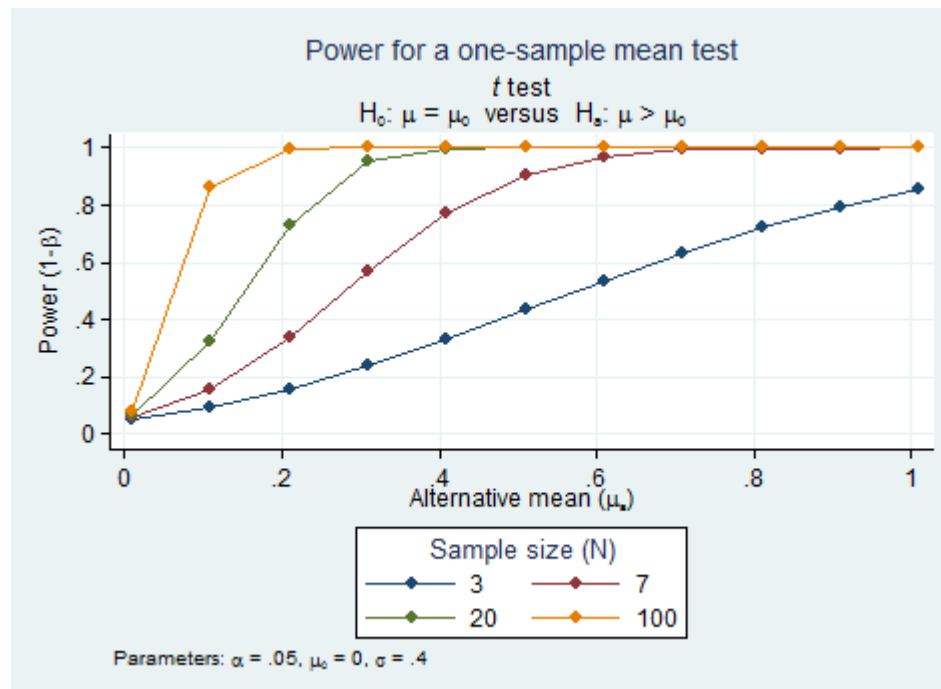
- Stata 13 syntax
  - power *method*  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]
- One-sample T-test
  - Plots power as function of  $n$ 
    - power onemean 0 0.4, onesided sd(0.4) n(1(1)20) graph
  - Plots power as function of  $\Delta$ 
    - power onemean 0 (0.01(0.1)1.01), onesided sd(0.4) n(7) graph

# Statistical power

- Stata 13 syntax
  - power *method*  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]
- One-sample T-test
  - Plots power as function of  $n$ 
    - power onemean 0 0.4, onesided sd(0.4) n(1(1)20) graph
  - Plots power as function of  $\Delta$  for several  $n$ 
    - power onemean 0 (0.01(0.1)1.01), sd(0.4) n(3 7 20 100) graph(y(power) x(ma)) onesided

# Statistical power

- Stata 13 syntax
  - power *method*  $\mu_0$  ( $\mu_0 + \Delta$ ) [,options]



# Statistical power

- Two-sample T-test
- Controls vs. Cases

- $H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2,$

- $H_A: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$

- $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 0.4$

- $\Delta = \mu_2 - \mu_1$

- power twomeans 0 0.4, sd(0.4)
  - N=34
  - N per group=17

# Statistical power

- Two-sample T-test
- Controls vs. Cases
  - Assume  $\sigma_1 = 0.1$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0.4$
- power twomeans 0 0.4, sd1(0.1) sd2(0.4)
  - N=22
  - N per group=11

# Statistical power

- Two-sample T-test
- Controls vs. Cases
  - Assume  $\sigma_1 = 0.1$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0.4$
  - We already had 17 in each group
- `power twomeans 0 0.4, sd1(0.1) sd2(0.4)`  
`n(34)`
  - `power=0.9655`

# Statistical power

- Two-sample T-test
- Controls vs. Cases
  - Assume  $\sigma_1 = 0.1$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0.4$
  - 9 cases and 7 controls were ineligible
- power twomeans 0 0.4, sd1(0.1) sd2(0.4)  
n1(10) n2(8)
  - power=0.6729

# Statistical power

- Two-sample T-test
- Controls vs. Cases
  - Assume  $\sigma_1 = 0.1$  and  $\sigma_2 = 0.4$
  - Which  $\Delta$  can we detect at 80% power?
- power twomeans 0, sd1(0.1) sd2(0.4)  
n1(10) n2(8) power(0.80)
  - delta=3.2192 (?)
  - m2=0.4665 (m2= $\Delta$ )



# Statistical power

- Testing proportions (T-test)
- Test if a drug works
  - $H_0$ :  $p=30\%$  get well within two days
  - $H_A$ :  $p>30\%$  get well within two days
  - How many patients do we need if we assume  $p=50\%$  (so that  $\Delta = p - 0.3 = 0.2$ )?

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions (T-test)
- Test if a drug works
  - $H_0$ :  $p=30\%$  get well within two days
  - $H_A$ :  $p>30\%$  get well within two days
  - How many patients do we need if we assume  $p=50\%$  (so that  $\Delta = p - 0.3 = 0.2$ )?
- power oneproportion 0.3 0.5
  - $N=44$

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions (T-test)
- Test if a drug works
  - $H_0$ :  $p=30\%$  get well within two days
  - $H_A$ :  $p>30\%$  get well within two days
  - For which  $\Delta$  do we have a power of 0.80 if we only get 35 patients?

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions (T-test)
- Test if a drug works
  - $H_0: p=30\%$  get well within two days
  - $H_A: p>30\%$  get well within two days
  - For which  $\Delta$  do we have a power of 0.80 if we only get 35 patients?
- power oneproportion 0.3, n(35) power(.8)
  - $\text{delta}=0.2229$  ( $\text{delta}=\Delta$ )
  - $\text{pa}=0.5229$  ( $\text{pa}=p_0 + \Delta$ )

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions ( $\chi^2$ -test)
- Test which of two drugs work the best
  - $H_0: p_1 = p_2$  ,  $H_A: p_1 \neq p_2$
  - $\Delta = p_2 - p_1$
  - Assume  $p_1 = 0.75$  and  $p_2 = 0.60$
  - Which n do we need to obtain a power of 0.8
- power twoproportions 0.75 0.60

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions ( $\chi^2$ -test)
- Test which of two drugs work the best
  - $H_0: p_1 = p_2$  ,  $H_A: p_1 \neq p_2$
  - $\Delta = p_2 - p_1$
  - Assume  $p_1 = 0.75$  and  $p_2 = 0.60$
  - Which n do we need to obtain a power of 0.8
- power twoproportions 0.75 0.60
  - N=304
  - N per group=152

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions ( $\chi^2$ -test)
- Test which of two drugs work the best
  - $H_0: p_1 = p_2$  ,  $H_A: p_1 \neq p_2$
  - $\Delta = \text{OR}(p_2, p_1)$
  - Assume  $p_1 = 0.75$  and  $p_2 = 0.60$
  - Which n do we need to obtain a power of 0.8
- power twoproportions 0.75 0.60,  
effect(oratio)
  - delta=0.5 (odds-ratio)

# Statistical power

- Testing proportions ( $\chi^2$ -test)
- Test which of two drugs work the best
  - $H_0: p_1 = p_2$  ,  $H_A: p_1 \neq p_2$
  - $\Delta = \text{OR}(p_2, p_1) = 0.5$
  - Assume  $p_1 = 0.75$ ,  $n_1 = 30$ ,  $n_2 = 31$
  - What is the power?
- power twoproportions 0.75, n1(30) n2(31) oratio(0.5)
  - power=0.2359



# Statistical power

- For linear regression
  - T-test
  - Simulations
- For logistic regression
  - $\chi^2$ -test
  - Simulations
- Very difficult to predict how adjustment variables affect power

# Statistical power

- Consequences of low power
- The positive predictive (PPV) value is the probability that a positive result is due to a true association
- $PPV = P(H_0 \text{ false} | p < 0.05)$
- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$ 
  - R is the odds of  $H_0$  being false
  - $R = P(H_0 \text{ false})/P(H_0 \text{ true})$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if gene is associated with disease
  - 1000 candidate genes
  - 3 are associated (we don't know which)
- $R = \frac{0.003}{1-0.003} \approx 0.003$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05}$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if gene is associated with disease
  - 1000 candidate genes
  - 3 are associated (we don't know which)
- $R = \frac{0.003}{1-0.003} \approx 0.003$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05} \approx 0.046$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - Worked for similar disease
  - About 75% certain that it works this time too
- $R = \frac{0.75}{1-0.75} = 3$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05}$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - Worked for similar disease
  - About 75% certain that it works this time too
- $R = \frac{0.75}{1-0.75} = 3$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05} \approx 0.98$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - What if it's either way?
  - 50% sure
- $R = \frac{0.50}{1-0.50} = 1$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05}$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - What if it's either way?
  - 50% sure
- $R = \frac{0.50}{1-0.50} = 1$
- $PPV = \frac{0.8R}{0.8R+0.05} \approx 0.94$



# Statistical power

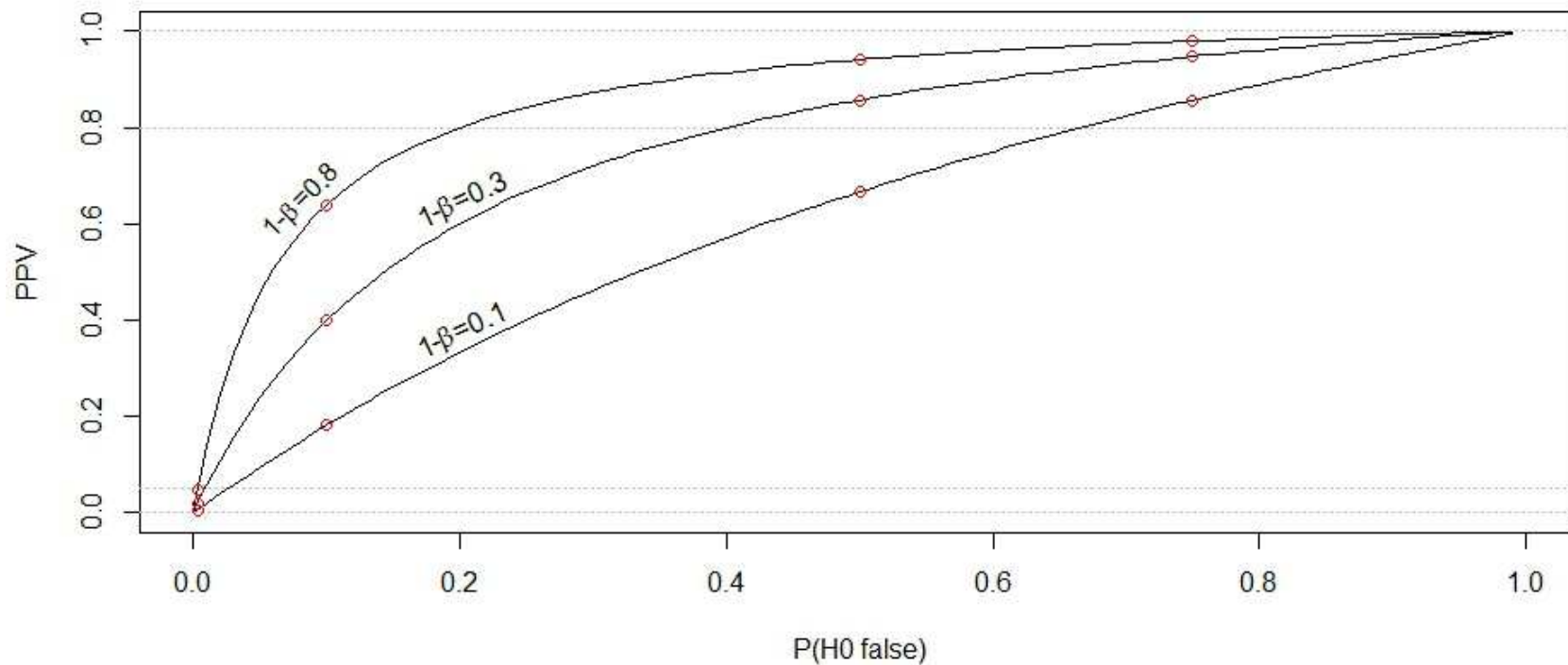
- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - What if the power is low ( $1 - \beta = 0.2$ )?
  - 50% sure
- $R = \frac{0.50}{1-0.50} = 1$
- $PPV = \frac{0.2R}{0.2R+0.05}$

# Statistical power

- $PPV = \frac{(1-\beta)R}{(1-\beta)R+0.05}$
- Test if medication works for disease
  - What if the power is low ( $1 - \beta = 0.2$ )?
  - 50% sure
- $R = \frac{0.50}{1-0.50} = 1$
- $PPV = \frac{0.2R}{0.2R+0.05} = 0.80$

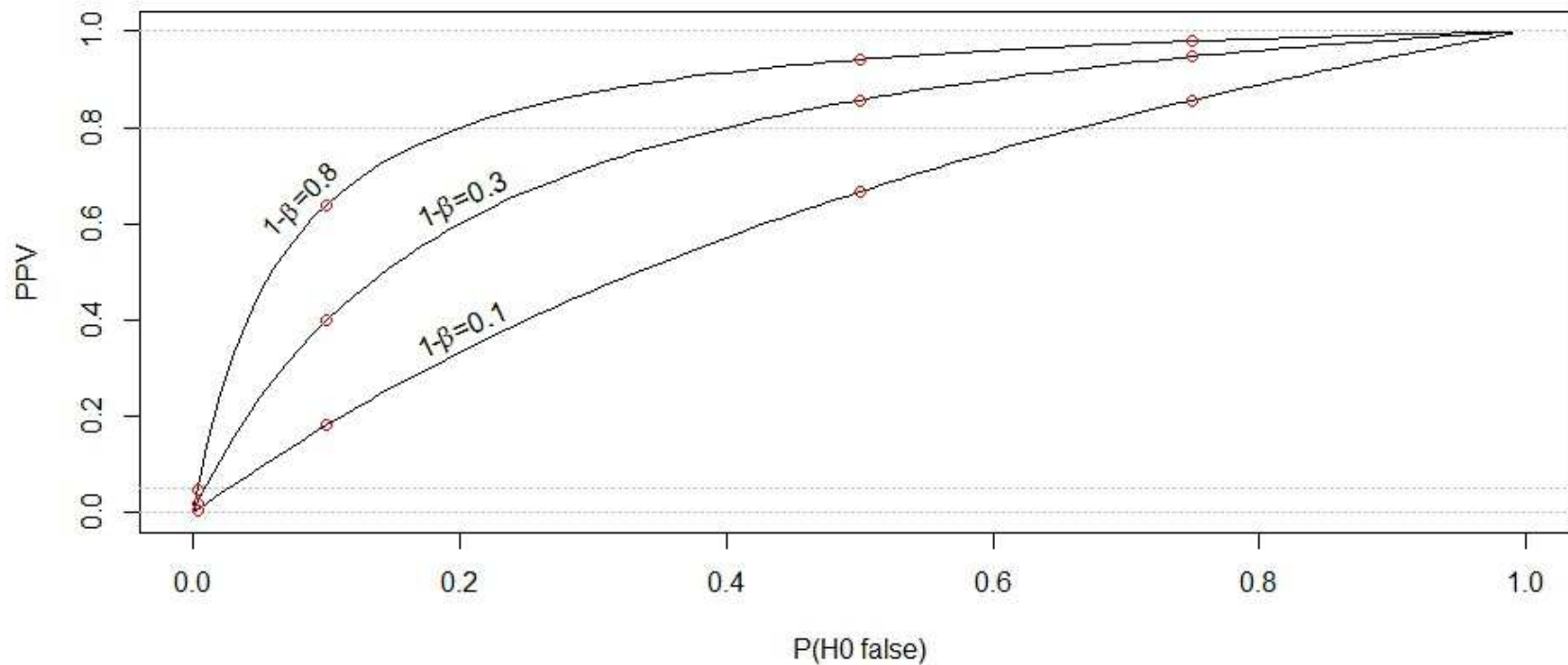
# Statistical power

- Different values of power and  $P(H_0 \text{ false})$



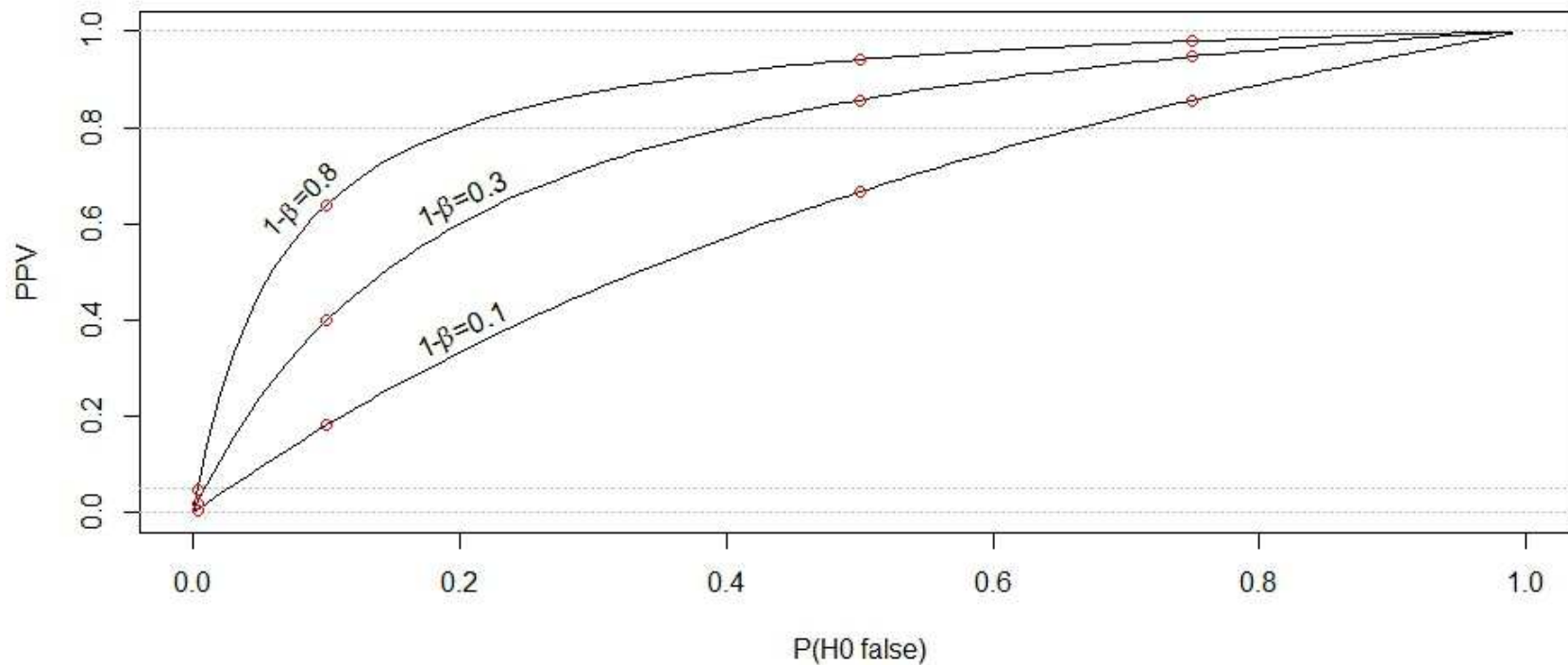
# Statistical power

- Surprising results are not likely to be true!



# Statistical power

- Low powered results are not likely to be true!



# Statistical power

- Recommended reading
  - Ioannidis (2005) Why most published research findings are false. PLoS Medicine.
  - Button et al. (2013) Power failure: Why small sample size undermines the reliability of neuroscience. Nature reviews, neuroscience.
  - <http://simplystatistics.org/2013/12/16/a-summary-of-the-evidence-that-most-published-research-is-false/>