"Secrets of Success" or "The yin & yang of career success"

Thomas E. Nichols

Oxford Big Data Institute
Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Information and Discovery
Nuffield Department of Population Health
University of Oxford

Well, how did I get (t)here?



• Carnegie Mellon: BS Computer Science



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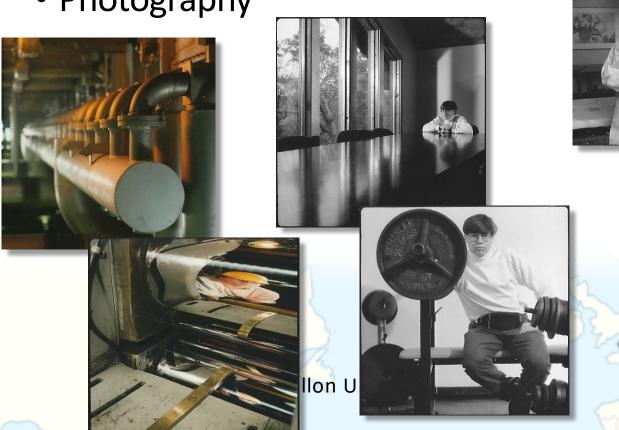
• Carnegie Mellon: BS Statistics

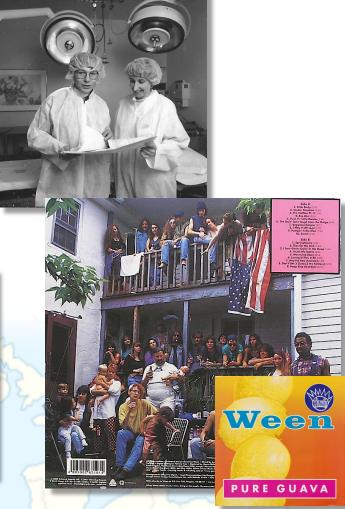


- Carnegie Mellon: BS Statistics
- Photography

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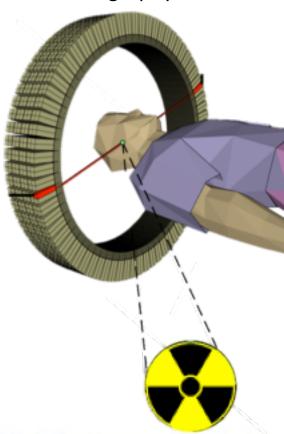
Photography

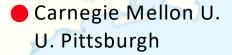




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- University of Pittsburgh PET Facility

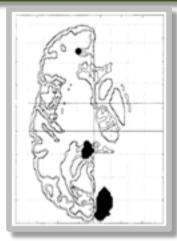
Positron Emission Tomography

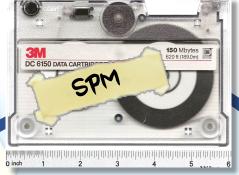




/___)(___\(__\/__) Statistical ___\)___/) (Parametric (___/(__) (_/\/_) Mapping

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 - SPM PET Analysis software by Karl Friston



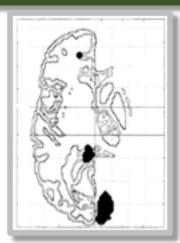


Early distribution method for SPM

Carnegie Mellon U.
U. Pittsburgh

/__)(__\(_\/_) Statistical __\)__/) (Parametric (___/(__) (_/\/_) Mapping

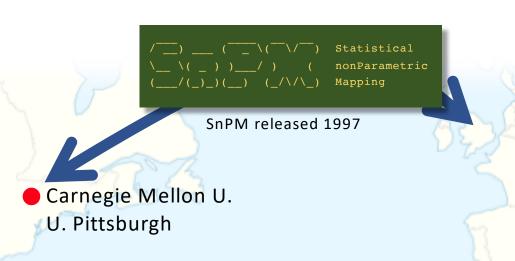
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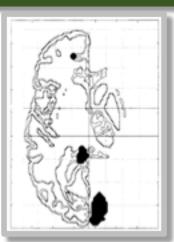


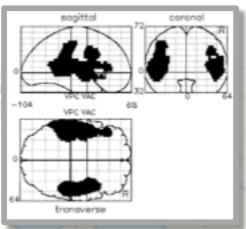


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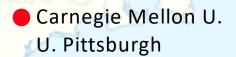
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 - SnPM Nonparametric version of SPM





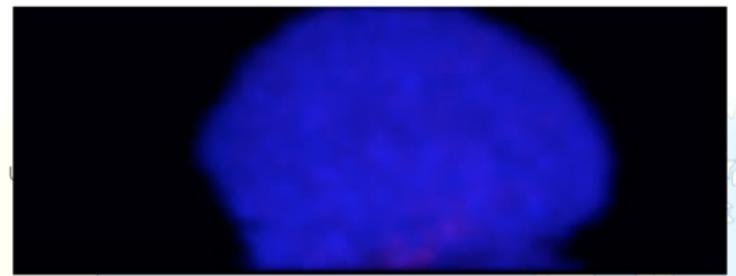


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- Carnegie Mellon: PhD Statistics
 - University Southern California visit: PET Movies

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Pittsburgh Lessons

- Profound impact of open software...
 - When shared and supported
- Collaboration
 - See the world and do science

Michigan

- University of Michigan Department of Biostatistics
- Continued software development
 - SnPM, but also FSL's randomise
- Focus on inference for MRI
 - False Discovery Rate
 - Continued FWE permutation evaluations
 - Conjunction Inference



Conjunction Inference in SPM

• Example, 3 variants of N-Back

```
Letter memory: D J D F P R A R . . . Number memory: 4 2 4 8 4 2 3 2 . . . Shape memory: * \subset * \lor \cap \land \times \land . .
```

- Only want voxels that activate all three
- Friston & Worsley (2000) Conjunction
 - Found null distribution of $\min T_{\scriptscriptstyle k}$ random field
 - FWE thresholds on min image k

```
"No effects present" H_0:\bigcap \{H^k=0\} "Some effects present" H_A:\bigcup \{H^k=1\}
```

Worsley, Friston (2000). A test for a conjunction. *Statistics and Probability Letters*, **47**, 135-140.

```
    Integral geometry and storoidings
        In this section we shall state some results from integral geometry and storoiding that will be used to prove our main result (see, for example, Santali, 1978).
        Let μ(A) be the rith Minkewskii functional of a set A ⊂ R <sup>D</sup>, scaled so that it is invariant under embedding of A into any higher-dimensional Euclidean space. If A has a twice differentiable boundary At, then it can be defined as follows. Let μ = D<sup>D</sup>(F(C)) be the surface area of a unit (f − 1)-sphere in W. For M an m × m matrix let deta(M), denote the sum of the determinant of all f × f principal minors of M, so that deta<sub>d</sub>(M) = det(M), denote the sum of the determinant of all f × f principal minors of M, so that deta<sub>d</sub>(M) = det(M), denote the sum of the detap(M) = 1. Let Q be the (D − 1) × (D − 1) curvature matrix of 2d. Then for Φ(A) = d(M) and we define deta<sub>d</sub>(M) = 1. Let Q be the (D − 1) × (D − 1) curvature matrix of 2d. Then for Φ(A) = d(A) and define μ<sub>A</sub>(A) = d(A) =
```

Conjunction Inference – Right null

Rather, want:

$$H_0: igcup_k \{H^k=0\}$$
 "Not all effects present" $H_A: igcap_k \{H^k=1\}$ "All effects present"

- Correct conjunction test:
 - Take conjunction of tests, each at usual level
 - E.g. if K = 3 tests are all significant at α = 0.05
 - Reject conjunction null H_0 in favour of H_A

Michigan Lessons

- Just because a result is published & cited, doesn't mean its right
- Great rewards for working closely with the user
- Build generic, tools (keep on) supporting them
- It doesn't need to be published in JASA/JRSS (your own discipline's top journal) to be impactful



GlaxoSmithKline

GSK House





GlaxoSmithKline

GSK House

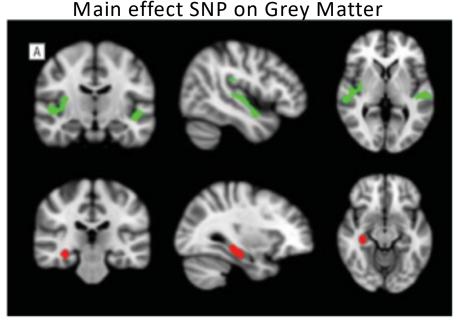
GSK Clinical Imaging Centre Hammersmith Hospital Campus

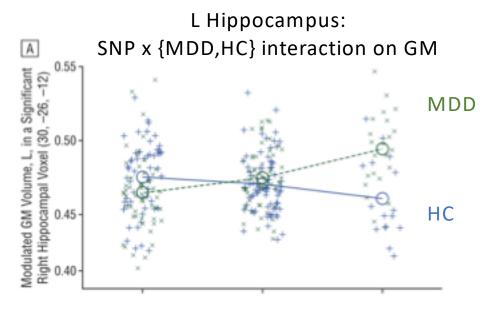




GSK: Imaging Genetics of Depression & Glycogen Synthase Kinase-3β (GSK3β)

- Main effects of SNP
 - Green: Superior temporal gyrus: P<0.001 (Space, 15 SNPs)
 - Red: Right Hippocampus: P < 0.02 (Space only)
- SNP x MDD interaction





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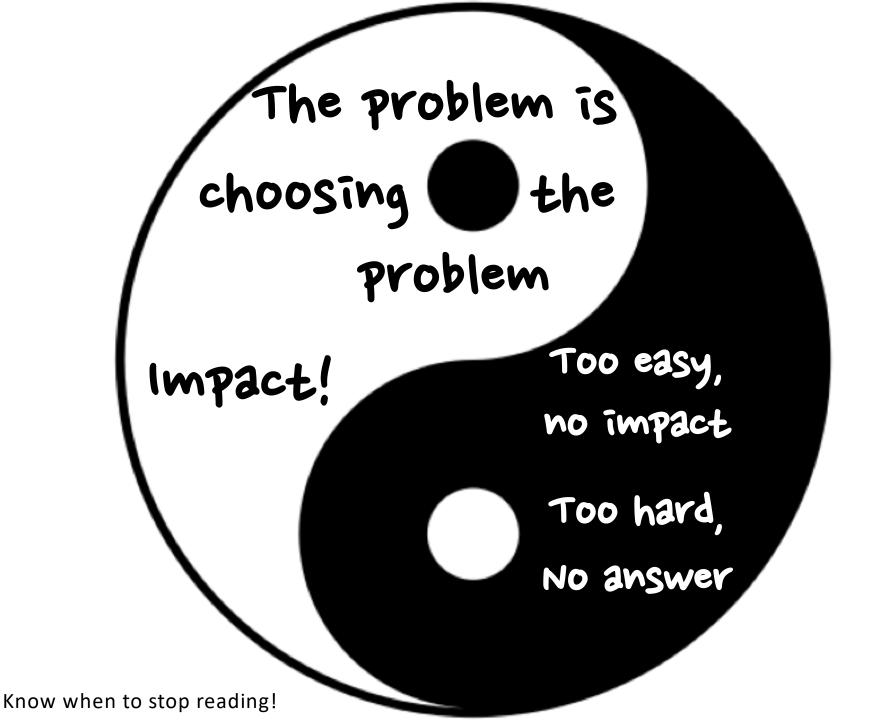
GlaxoSmithKline Lessons

- Amazing smart, driven scientists
- Pharma priorities change at lightening speed
- Clinical trials are hard











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- Learn stats, coding early.

 Always know:
 - What exactly is your question?
 - Are you collecting data that can answer that question?
 - Are you using stat. methods that answer that question?

Thank you!