

# 21st Annual GIS/CAMA Technologies Conference Chattanooga Convention Center

GIS/CAMA • Chattanooga, TN



IAAO

URISA

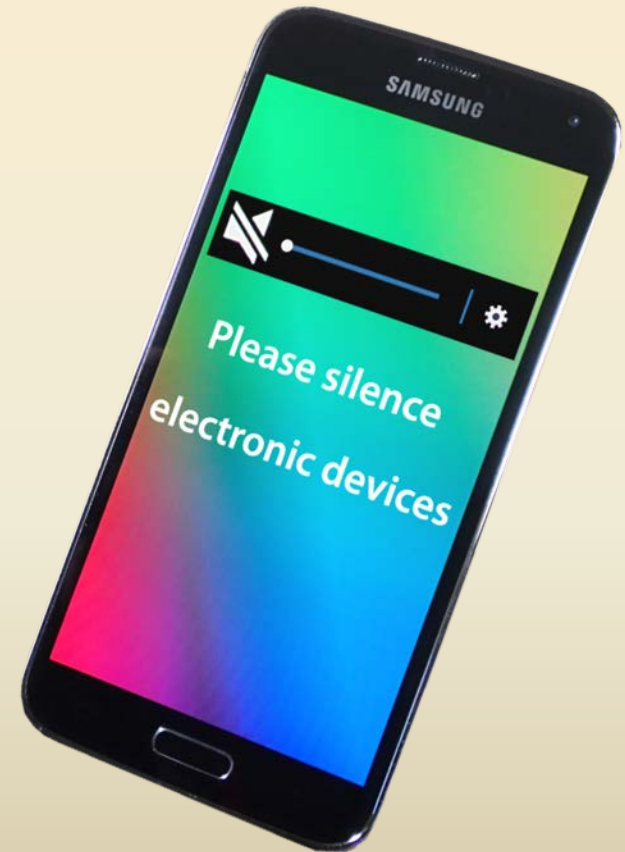
March 6-9, 2017

# Continuing Education (CE) Credit

Recertification Credit forms for CE credit can be collected from the Registration Desk on Thursday.

## Housekeeping

The conference proceedings will be available approximately 8 weeks after the conference.



# Detecting Biased Samples in Assessment

## Representative Samples for both Ratio Studies and CAMA Valuation Model Building

By

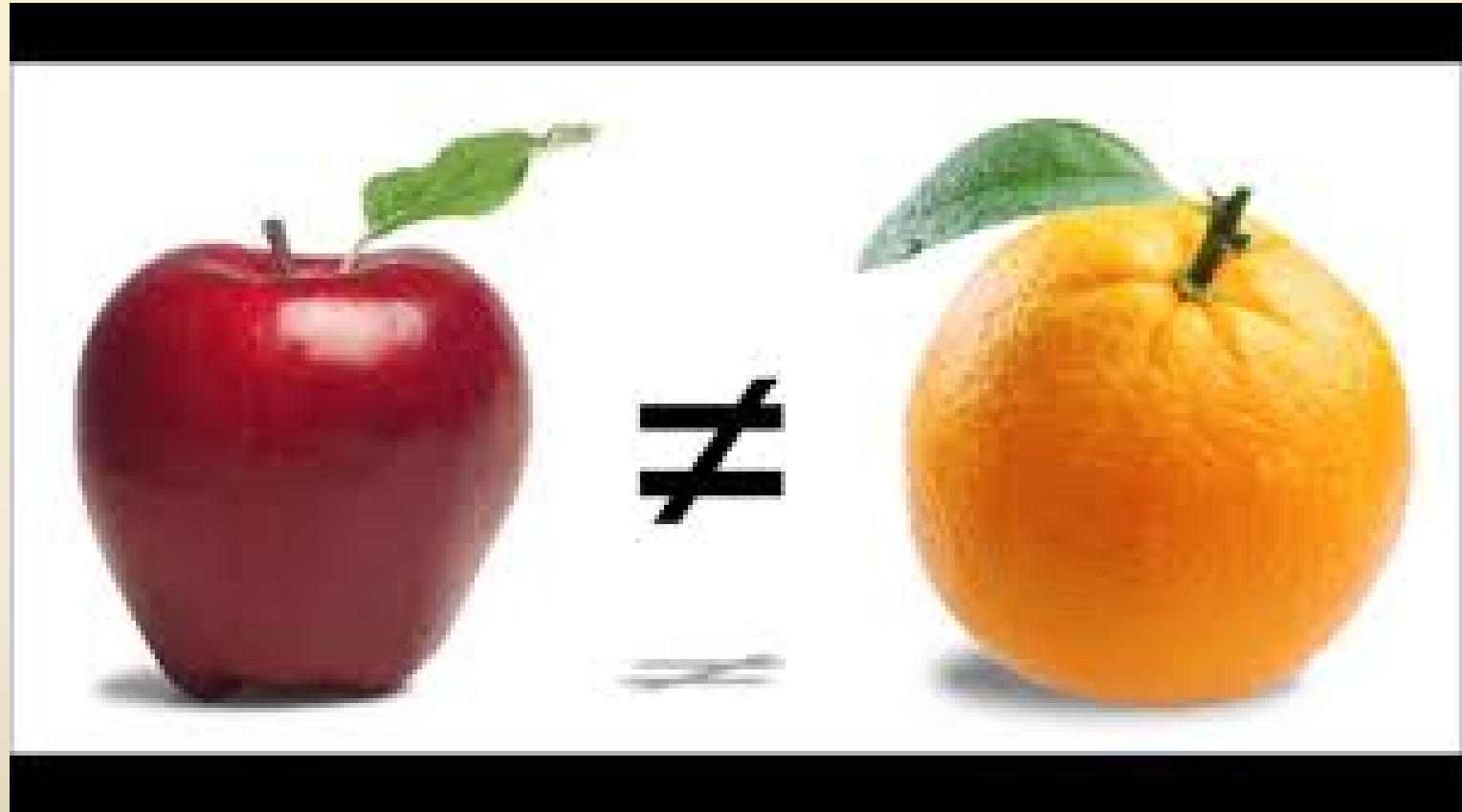
Robert Denne, partner, AGJD

At

GIS/CAMA 2017



# Obligatory Cheesy Slide



# IAAO Standard on Ratio Studies, 2013

- **Section 4.5 discussion of representativeness**
- **Also Section 4.2 in part 2**
- **83 appearances of the word representative in std**
- **Appendix E (2 pages) on Sales Chasing Detection**
- **Terminology: sale motivated adjustment of value, by means of changed characteristic data (or price)**
- **Appendix E cites 5 methods re Sales Chasing**



# Standard Appendix E Methods re SC

1. Comparison of Average Value Changes
2. Comparison of Average Unit Values
3. Split Sample Technique
4. Comparison of Observed versus Expected Distribution of Ratios
5. Mass Appraisal Techniques



# SC: practice of changing incommensurately

Distinguish (current) *practice* from *results* of past (?)  
practice

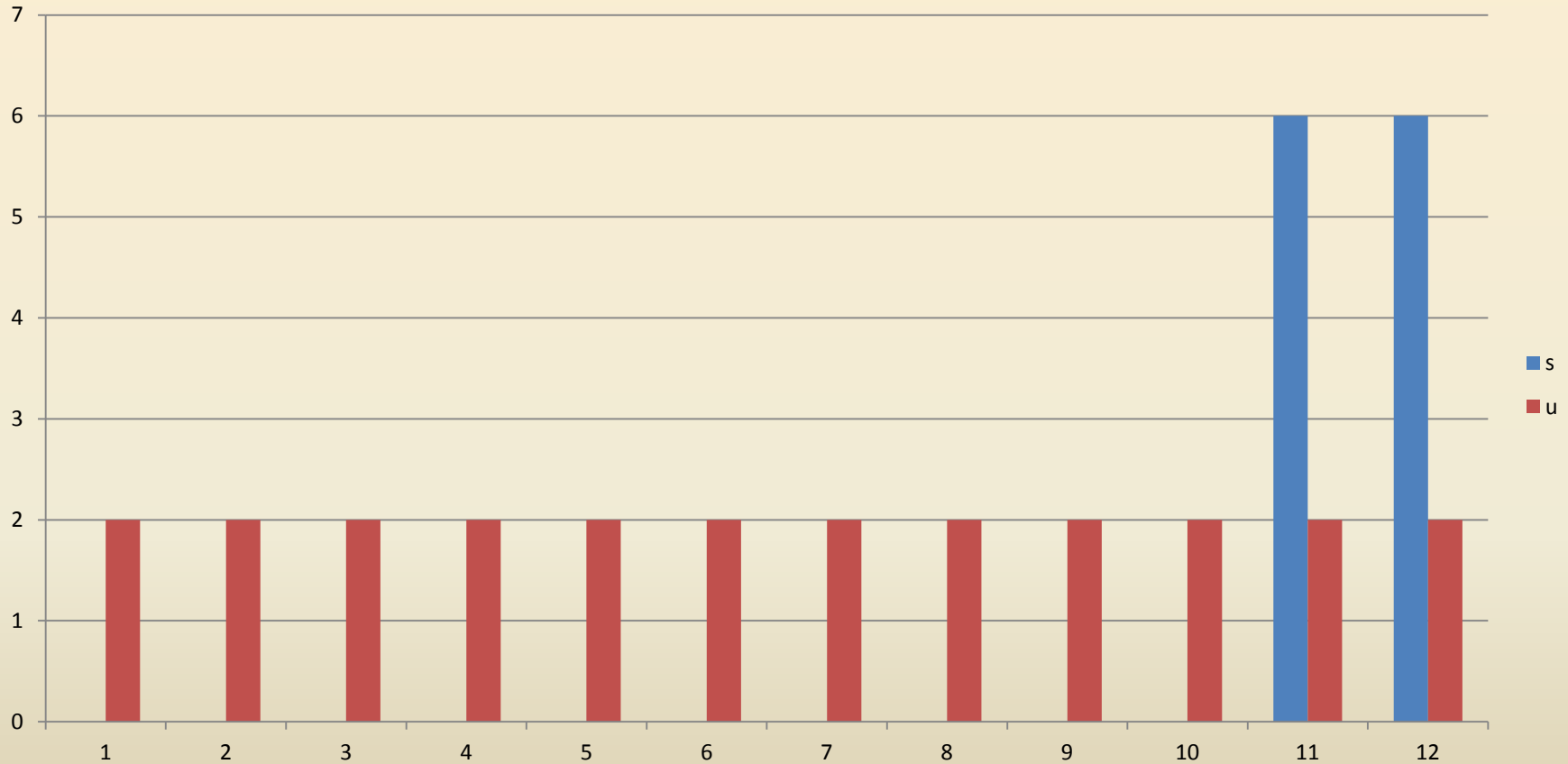
Power of test is affected by level of effort devoted to  
eliminating noise (exogenously justified changes)

If physical changes are eliminated by noting changed  
property characteristics year of over year the  
remaining (endogenous) changes can be attributable  
to personal responsibility -> retraining

If chgs eliminated due to permits worked, then failures  
may be more systemically based, or inadvertent.



# Distributions vs. Averages/Medians





# Issues

## Issues

- **Average or Median vs. Entire Distribution**
- **Dollars per Unit vs Percentage Changes**
- **Sale-Motivated Adjustments vs. Total Neglect (vars.)**

## Usages known

- **4-R case in early 90s**
- **Status today: 1 large oversight agency and 3-4 original-assessment operations: 3 large, 1 medium**
- **not just for residential properties nor just S Chasers**



# Tutorial & Disclaimer

**SPSS (IAAO teaching resource & I know) but not Excel  
NCSS(the other IAAO teaching resource) also suitable  
SAS, R, Python, etc. also possible, but I will demonstrate  
what I use most.**

## **NPAR TESTS**

**/M-W= PctChgNoticedMktVal1314 BY TestControl(0 1)**

**/MISSING ANALYSIS.**

**\* Highly significant for Apartments, Office Bldgs, Retail, and  
Warehouses; not signif for Medical Office; inadequate  
data for vacant.**



# GUI-1

The screenshot shows the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor interface. The menu path is: Analyze > Nonparametric Tests > Legacy Dialogs > 2 Related Samples... The data table has columns: es, py\_CaseNum, FlgBldType, ChgFlgUseGrp, ChgFlgYrBlt, ChgFlgBaseArea, and ChgFlgStories. The data rows are numbered 1 through 21.

	es	py_CaseNum	FlgBldType	ChgFlgUseGrp	ChgFlgYrBlt	ChgFlgBaseArea	ChgFlgStories
1	7.00	51	0	0	0	0	0
2	3.00	85	0	0	0	0	0
3	3.00	145	0	0	0	0	0
4	7.00	158	0	0	0	0	0
5	4.00	213	0	0	0	0	0
6	1.00	228	0	0	0	0	0
7	4.00	234	0	0	0	0	0
8	4.00	236	0	0	0	0	0
9	2.00	411	0	0	0	0	0
10	1.00	476	0	0	0	0	0
11	.	.	1	0	0	0	0
12	2.00	583	0	0	0	0	0
13	4.00	597	0	0	0	0	0
14	2.00	609	0	0	0	0	0
15	.	624	1	0	0	0	0
16	2.00	661	0	0	0	0	0
17	2.00	820	0	0	0	0	0
18	2.00	941	0	0	0	0	0
19	7.00	947	0	1	0	0	0
20	3.00	956	0	0	0	0	0
21	2.00	1045	0	0	0	0	0



# GUI-2

The image shows two overlapping dialog boxes from the SPSS software interface. The background dialog is titled "Two-Independent-Samples Tests" and contains the following elements:

- Test Variable List:** A list box containing "PctChgNoticedMktV...".
- Grouping Variable:** A text box containing "ControlTest01(? ?)".
- Test Type:** A group of four checkboxes: "Mann-Whitney U" (checked), "Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z", "Moses extreme reactions", and "Wald-Wolfowitz runs".
- Buttons:** "OK", "Paste", "Reset", "Cancel", "Help", and "Options..." (which is the dialog box in the foreground).

The foreground dialog is titled "Two Independent Samples: ..." and contains:

- Group 1:** A text box with the value "0".
- Group 2:** A text box with the value "1".
- Buttons:** "Continue", "Cancel", and "Help".

In the background, a portion of a data table is visible, showing columns of numerical data.

# Crosstabulation Output

## UseGrpN \* TestControl Crosstabulation

Count

		TestControl			Total
		0 Not recently sold	1 Sold in Study Period	9 Exogenous chg; Excluded from test	
UseGrpN	1 Apartments	4943	94	721	5758
	3 Office Bldgs	3690	59	293	4042
	4 Retail	26519	205	2491	29215
	6 Warehouse	15780	149	1743	17672
<b>Total</b>		<b>50932</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>5248</b>	<b>56687</b>

# Mann-Whitney Output (Raw)

			Sum of Ranks
PctChgNoticedMktVal131 4			

UseGrpN = 1 Apartments

	PctChgNotice dMktVal1314

UseGrpN = 1 Apartments

Grouping Variable: TestControl



# **Simpson's Paradox: the context of the test**

**Read Wikipedia article (aka Agglomeration paradox)**

**Famously arose re sex discrimination in admissions at UC Berkely**

**Similar problems can arise in assessment when confounding (residential) neighborhoods that differ from one another, as by age of construction or rates of turnover.**

**Solution: perform test at lowest, most specific level possible.**

**Problem not unique to our use, shared by all stats.**



# Switch to Excel

Line#	Neighborhood within Township & Major Class	Median Percent Change In Assessment For Sold Properties	Sample Size For Parcels Sold In Study Period	Median Percent Change In Assessment For Unsold Properties	Sample Size For Parcels Not Sold In Study Period	Difference in Median Percentage Changes: Sold - Unsold Parcels	Mann-Whitney Likelihood Of Such Differences In Percentage Changes in the Absence of Different Treatments of the Groups
1	ResidImpr,200150	6	14	6	73	0	0.786
2	ResidImpr,200300	-7	6	-7	107	0	0.573
3	ResidImpr,201000	2	9	2	167	0	0.278
4	ResidImpr,201600	7	8	7	150	0	0.152
5	ResidImpr,202000	1	11	1	284	0	0.010
6	ResidImpr,202300	2	8	2	169	0	0.409
7	ResidImpr,202600	0	10	1	191	-1	0.147
8	ResidImpr,202650	4	5	4	47	0	0.525
9	ResidImpr,202850	3	11	3	98	0	0.478
10	ResidImpr,202900	7	7	7	75	0	0.784
11	ResidImpr,203650	9	6	9	83	0	0.768
12	ResidImpr,203655	-1	14	-1	177	0	0.591
13	ResidImpr,203656	5	8	5	131	0	0.426
14	ResidImpr,204500	0	9	0	164	0	0.000
15	ResidImpr,204900	0	5	0	122	0	1.000





# Many tests, Nicely formatted, but ...

Line#	Neighborhood within Township & Major Class	Median Percent Change In Assessment For Sold Properties	Sample Size For Parcels Sold In Study Period	Median Percent Change In Assessment For Unsold Properties	Sample Size For Parcels Not Sold In Study Period	Difference in Median Percentage Changes: Sold - Unsold Parcels	Mann-Whitney Likelihood Of Such Differences In Percentage Changes in the Absence of Different Treatments of the Groups
1	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,200150	6	14	6	73	0	0.786
2	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,200300	-7	6	-7	107	0	0.573
3	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,201000	2	9	2	167	0	0.278
4	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,201600	7	8	7	150	0	0.152
5	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202000	1	11	1	284	0	0.010
6	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202300	2	8	2	169	0	0.409
7	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202600	0	10	1	191	-1	0.147
8	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202650	4	5	4	47	0	0.525
9	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202850	3	11	3	98	0	0.478
10	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,202900	7	7	7	75	0	0.784
11	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,203650	9	6	9	83	0	0.768
12	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,203655	-1	14	-1	177	0	0.591
13	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,203656	5	8	5	131	0	0.426
14	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,204500	0	9	0	164	0	0.000
15	DemoTwp,ResidImpr,204900	0	5	0	122	0	1.000



# Multiple Tests Require Special Handling

## Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Control Calculations

Input Line#	Input Value	P-	Sorted by P-Value: i	Correction formula: iq/m	False Discovery?
26	0.00000005		1	0.0004274	0
83	0.00007517		2	0.0008547	0
14	0.00012384		3	0.0012821	0
67	0.00019967		4	0.0017094	0
60	0.00754256		5	0.0021368	1
5	0.00974602		6	0.0025641	1
66	0.01052653		7	0.0029915	1
39	0.01725026		8	0.0034188	1

Note 1

0.05000000 q: false discovery rate  
117

Note 2

m: number of tests  
4 significant results given  
multiple tests

Conclusion:

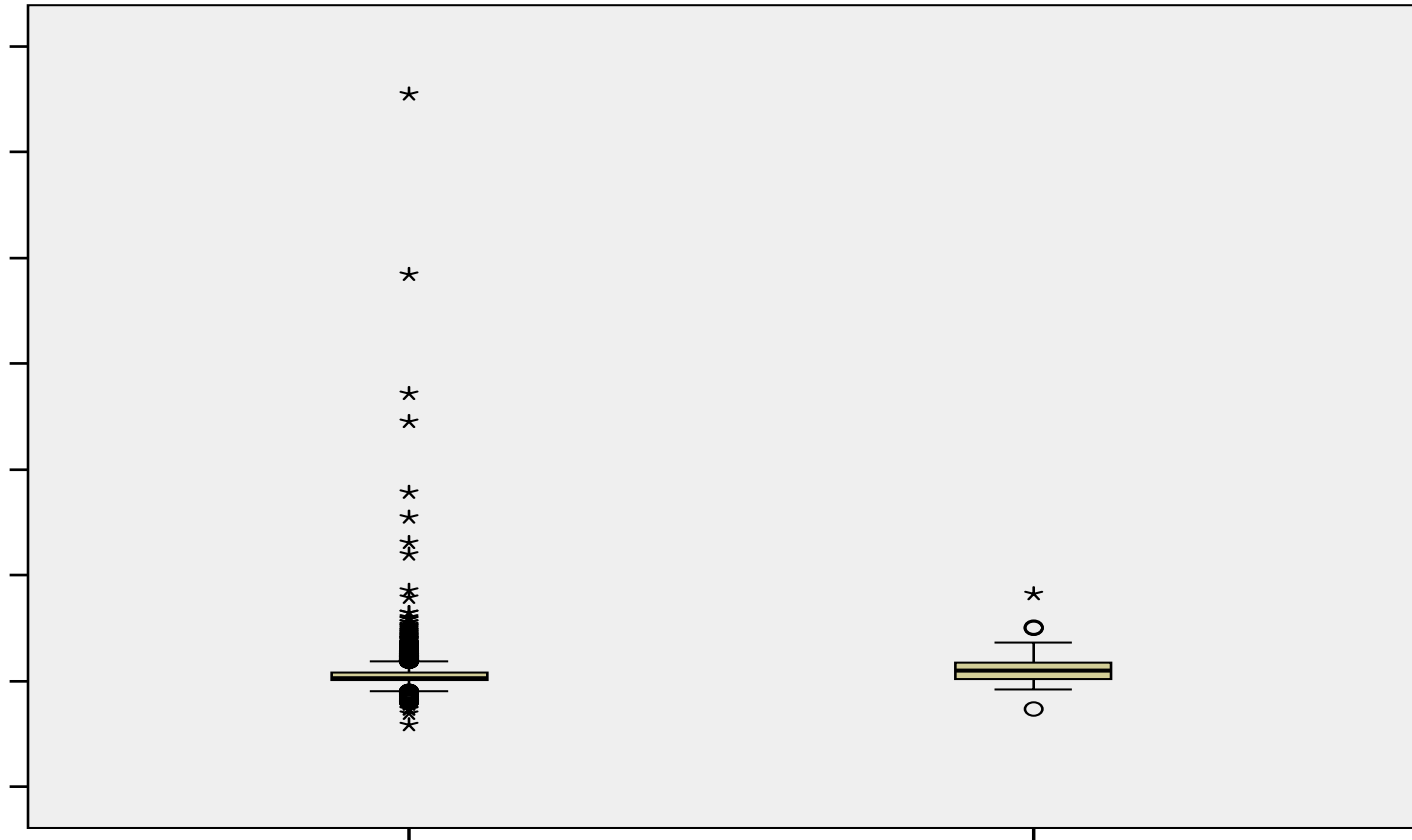


# Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Control Calculations

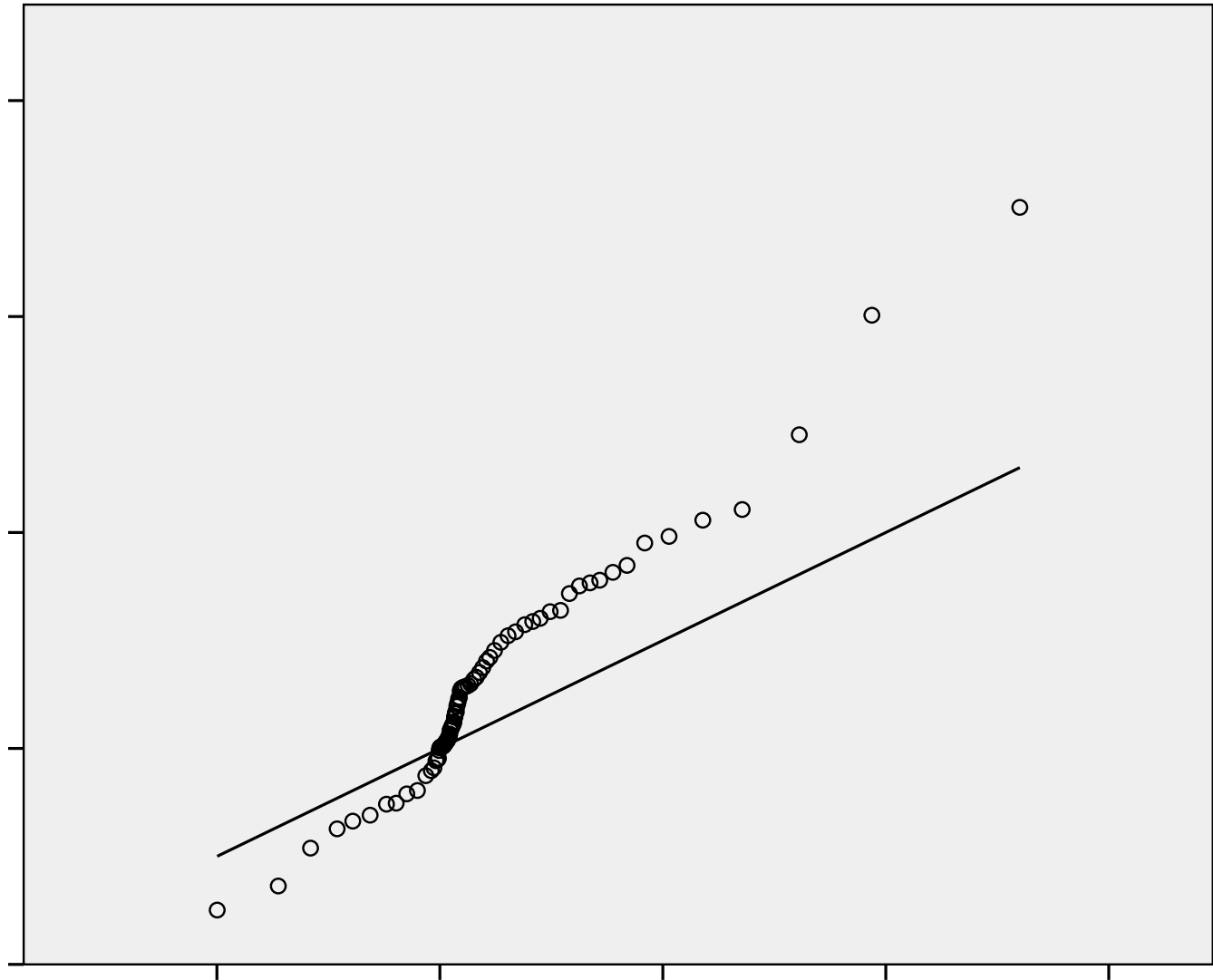
InLine	InPValue	i	iq/m		
26	0.00000005	1	0.0004274	0.05	q: false discovery rate
83	0.00007517	2	0.0008547	117	m: number of tests
					4 significant results
14	0.00012384	3	0.0012821	Conclusion	given multiple tests
67	0.00019967	4	0.0017094		
60	0.00754256	5	0.0021368		
5	0.00974602	6	0.0025641		
66	0.01052653	7	0.0029915		
39	0.01725026	8	0.0034188		



# Boxplot Graphics Encourage Understanding



# Quantile-Quantile Graphic



# Biases from cherry picking

**Limited applicability of statistical tests to detect, but an important problem to guard against**

**Can be discouraged by policies that maximize “sunshine”: controlled deed recordation, info to both local and oversight agency, posted on internet, filing requires completion of form with certain minimal sale/qualification questions, etc. Deed-image access would be ideal.**



# Biases from inclusion of new construction

**Often appropriately excluded**

**If included, should be weighted to reflect only themselves, not (nonexistent) other(s) unsold**



# **Biases in model building: omitted variables or combinations, especially w.r.t. location**

**This is a big problem with post reassessment reviews**

**Recall results from GIS-CAMA contest nine years ago  
won by users of 20/25 years of sales, esp. to model  
location in a triumph of time adjust + primitive GWR**





# Recommendations

- 1. Testing pctg changes in assessment, with statistical significance judged by a M-W test, is well worth trying. Recall level- of-detail and false-discovery considerations. Easily repeatable once set up (not hard) and produces quantifiable objective results.**
- 2. Involvement of 3<sup>rd</sup> parties (oversight and public) can diminish incidence of cherry picking. Also value in documentation and possibility of audit**
- 3. Multi-parcel sales are invaluable and should receive special care. CAMA systems not always capable...**



# Recommendations continued

4. Not all sales equally important, e.g. high vs low values & new construction esp. wrt residential (weighting?). CAMA systems should provide multiple qualification alternatives & address transaction and timing issues in qualification re purposes.
5. Larger samples and longer sample periods increase the value of the sample, albeit at a diminishing rate. Sales qualification even in the absence of routine reassessment is invaluable. Reliable matching via unique parcel identifiers is essential.
6. Performance criteria for reassessment contracts should specify appropriate sampling periods for the model building datasets and should include provision for subsequent testing against sales not included in the model-building dataset.



# Recommendations concluded

- 7. Ratio study trimming s/b based on IQR per IAAO standard, but consider deviations as a percentage rather than a raw-number basis. Thus if the median ratio were 1.0, two ratios of 4.00 and 0.25 should be recognized as being equally distant from the median, rather than the first being considered much farther from it than the latter. This is most easily implemented by trimming using the logarithms of the ratios, rather than the ratios themselves. If logarithms are not used, the effect of trimming will potentially be to bias the sample by preferentially eliminating over assessments and retaining most, if not all under assessments. Not everyone agrees.**



# Thanks for your attention!

## Questions ?

Contact info:

[rcdenne@uchicago.edu](mailto:rcdenne@uchicago.edu)

[agjd.com](http://agjd.com)







Assessment Leadership  
Beyond All Limits

# IAAO LAS VEGAS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
& Exhibition

September 24-27

2017