











COINS r = intrinsic probability of coming up heads (bias)									
r	odds	r	odds	r	odds	r	odds	r	odds
0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0.1	10.498	0.1	1.1664	0.1	0.1296	0.1	0.0144	0.1	0.0016
0.2	6.5536	0.2	1.6384	0.2	0.4096	0.2	0.1024	0.2	0.0256
0.3	3.8416	0.3	1.6464	0.3	0.7056	0.3	0.3024	0.3	0.1296
0.4	2.0736	0.4	1.3824	0.4	0.9216	0.4	0.6144	0.4	0.4096
0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	1
0.6	0.4096	0.6	0.6144	0.6	0.9216	0.6	1.3824	0.6	2.0736
0.7	0.1296	0.7	0.3024	0.7	0.7056	0.7	1.6464	0.7	3.8416
0.8	0.0256	0.8	0.1024	0.8	0.4096	0.8	1.6384	0.8	6.5536
0.9	0.0016	0.9	0.0144	0.9	0.1296	0.9	1.1664	0.9	10.498
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	16



The analogy again

Testing lots of markers for linkage to a trait is analogous to having lots of students, each flipping a coin.

The search for the coin's bias parameter is analogous to the search for recombination distance between markers and disease locus.

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Multiple testing, shown another way



 Simulate thousands of markers, inherited from parents to progeny.
Assign some family members to have a disease, others not.
Test for linkage between disease and markers, knowing there is none.

E. Lander and L. Kruglyak, Nature Genetics 11:241, 1995





A real world scenario

You have invested a bolus of research money in a linkage mapping study of a genetic disease segregating in families. For each family member, you do genotyping at a bunch of markers.

When you finally run the linkage calculation, the strongest marker gives a LOD of 2. You desperately want to believe this is significant.

You simulate a fake trait with no genetic control 1000 times.

You find that in 433 of these simulations, the fake trait had a LOD > 2.

This means that in your real data, the probability of your precious linkage peak being a false positive is 433/1000 = 0.433.

If you spent more money and time to follow this up, it could be a complete waste. Essential to know.









More markers = more tests = more chance for spurious high linkage score. More markers = more tests = more chance for spurious high linkage score.

Not true when you add individuals (patients)! Always improves results.



















But if you can beat multiple testing, why not do the whole genome... Testing for linkage doesn't always mean counting recombinants.







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Unlike cystic fibrosis and Huntington's disease, most traits are not yes-or-no.













