



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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# Preparing Data for Analysis

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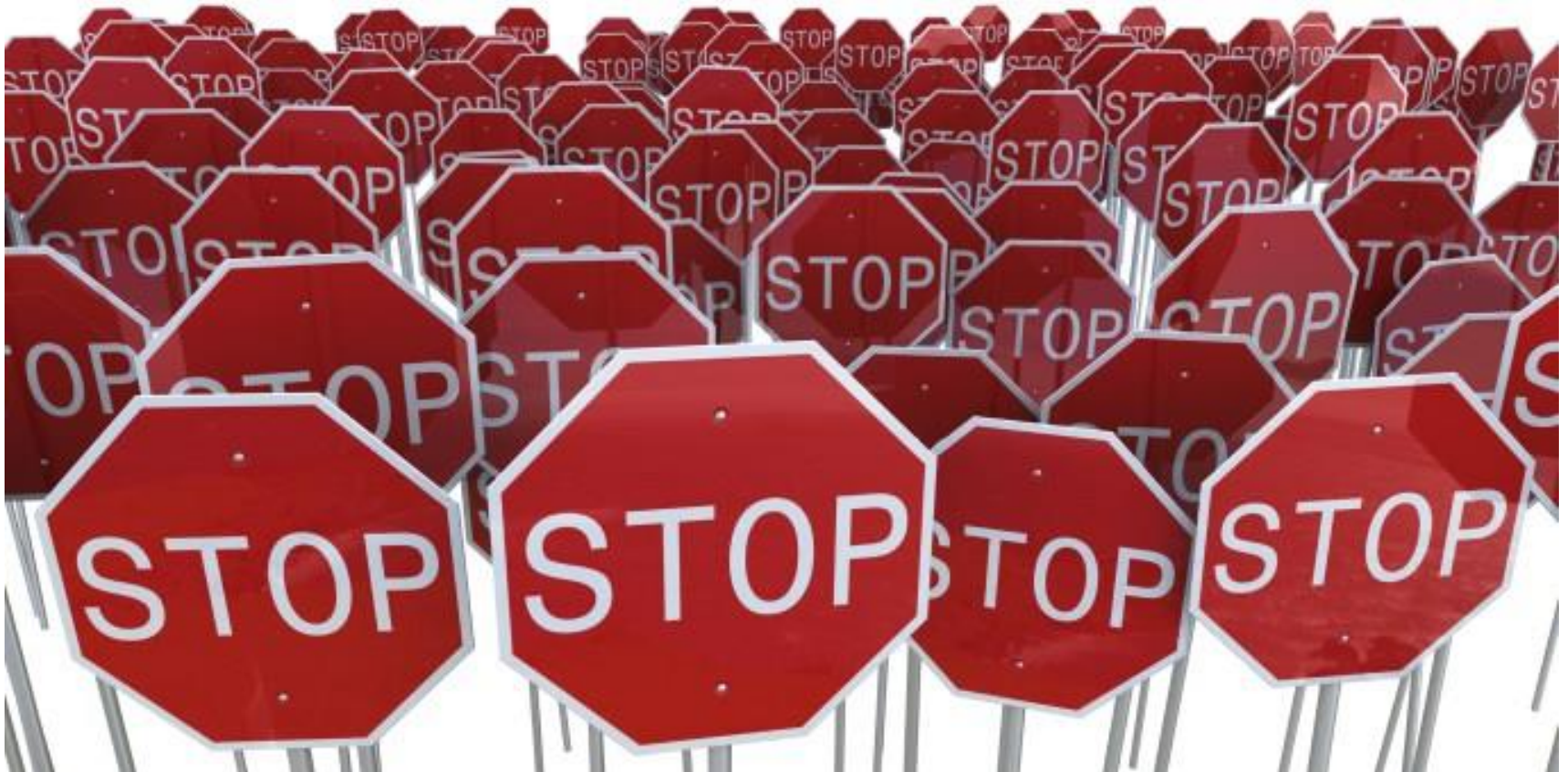
Making friends and influencing collaborators:

# **HOW TO GET A STATISTICIAN TO HELP YOU MORE THAN ONCE**



## Statistics time!

- I followed my Data Management Plan
- I have a data dictionary
- I entered all of the data correctly
- I even named my data files in a way JP would be proud of
- Time to send it to my Statistician to figure out the rest!





# Help them help you

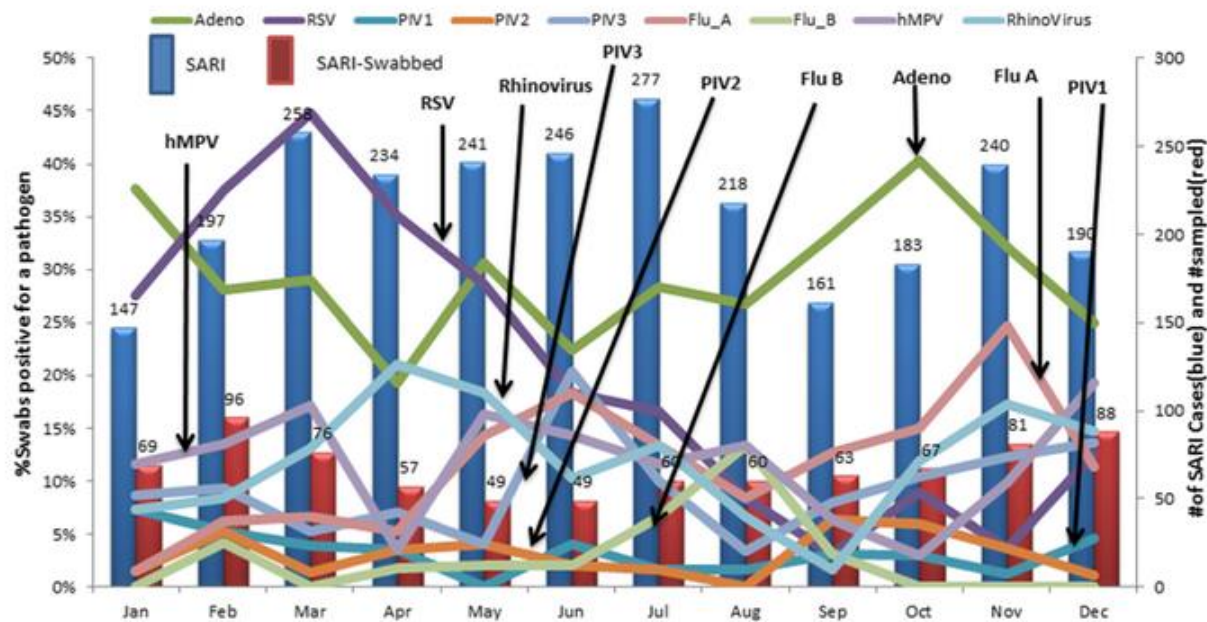


Figure 1 Monthly (aggregate) distribution of viral pathogens, March 1, 2007-Feb 28, 2011.

Reference redacted to protect the guilty



# A few things to make your statistician's job easier and more fun!

- The form you want your outcome to take
  - Dichotomous
  - Continuous
- The form you want your exposure to take
- Plausible cut points, known normal/abnormal levels of variables



# A few things continued

- Dummy tables
- A list of known confounders
- Relevant references from the field/topic/question



# A few things continued

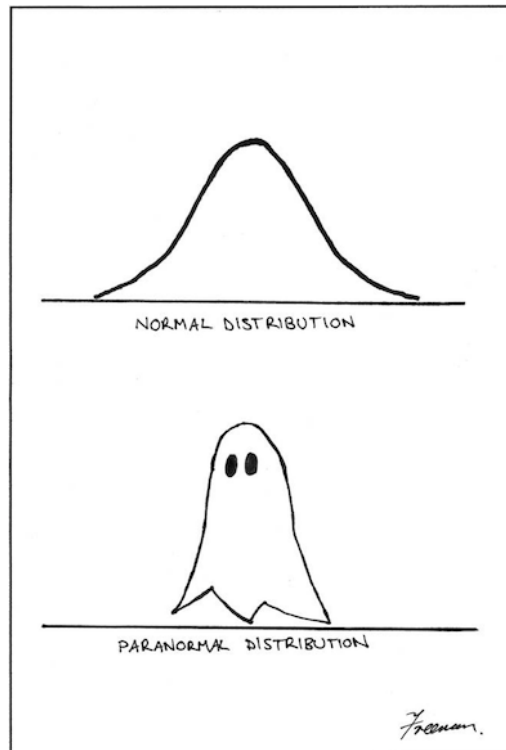
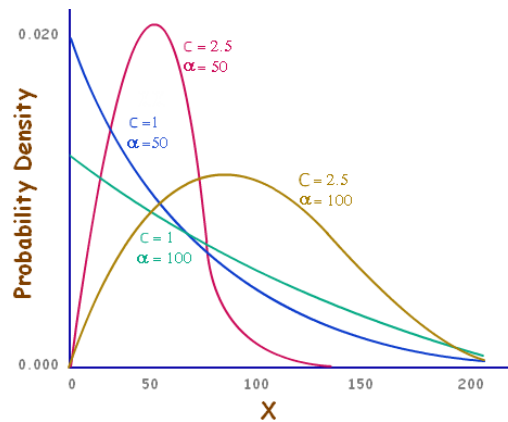
- A clear and realistic timeline
- An opportunity to participate from the start of the study
- A funding line in your grants





# Let the magic begin!

## Weibull Distribution



## Beta Distribution

