

I have the power and sample size



Boulder 2008
Benjamin Neale

To Be Accomplished

- Introduce concept of power via correlation coefficient (ρ) example
- Identify relevant factors contributing to power
- Practical:
 - Empirical power analysis for univariate twin model (simulation)
 - How to use mx for power

Simple example

- Investigate the linear relationship (ρ)
- between two random variables X and Y :
 $\rho=0$ vs. $\rho\neq 0$ (correlation coefficient).
- draw a sample, measure X, Y
- calculate the measure of association ρ
(Pearson product moment corr. coeff.)
- test whether $\rho \neq 0$.

How to Test $\rho \neq 0$

- assumed the data are normally distributed
- defined a null-hypothesis ($\rho = 0$)
- chosen α level (usually .05)
- utilized the (null) distribution of the test statistic associated with $\rho=0$
- $t = \rho \sqrt{[(N-2)/(1-\rho^2)]}$

How to Test $\rho \neq 0$

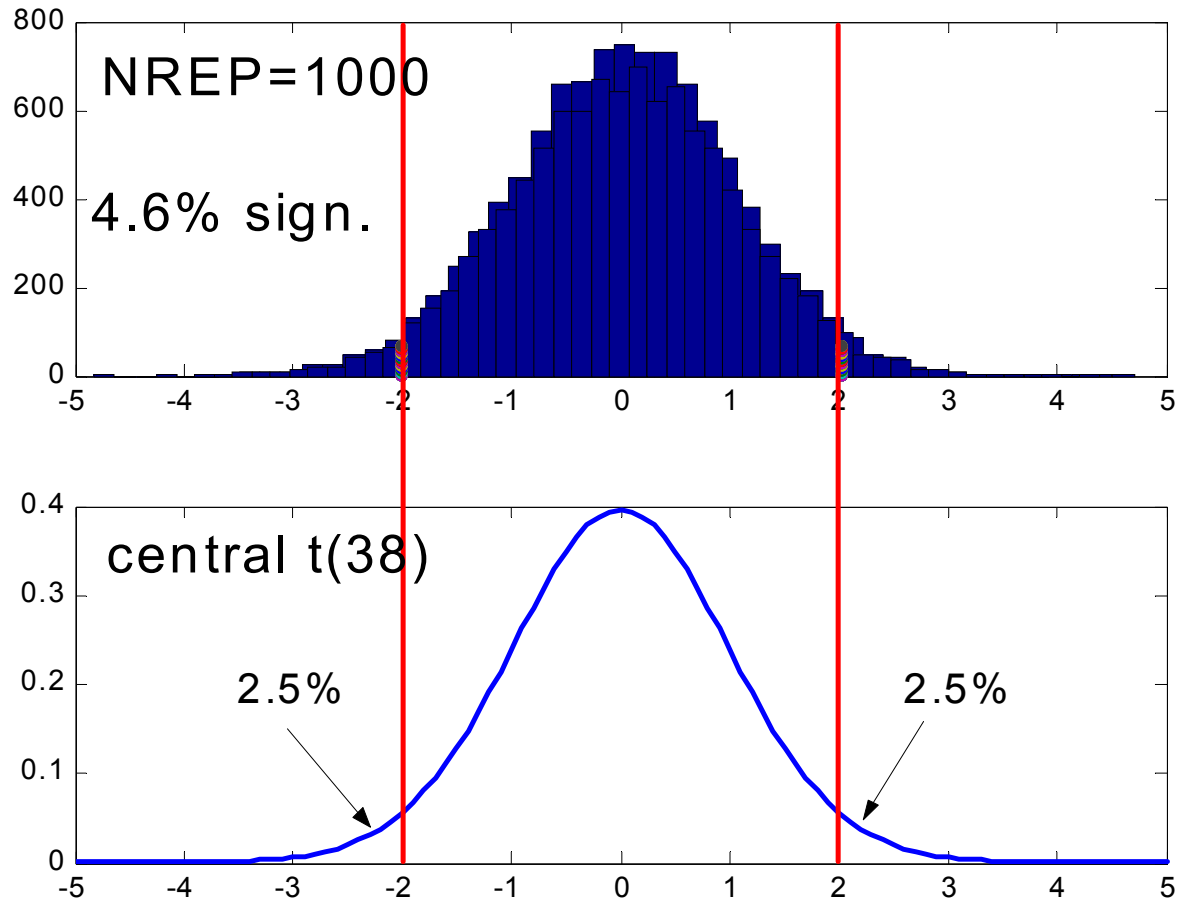
- Sample $N=40$
- $r=.303$, $t=1.867$, $df=38$, $p=.06$ $\alpha=.05$
- As $p > \alpha$, we fail to reject $\rho = 0$
- have we drawn the correct conclusion?

α = type I error rate
probability of deciding $\rho \neq 0$
(while in truth $\rho = 0$)

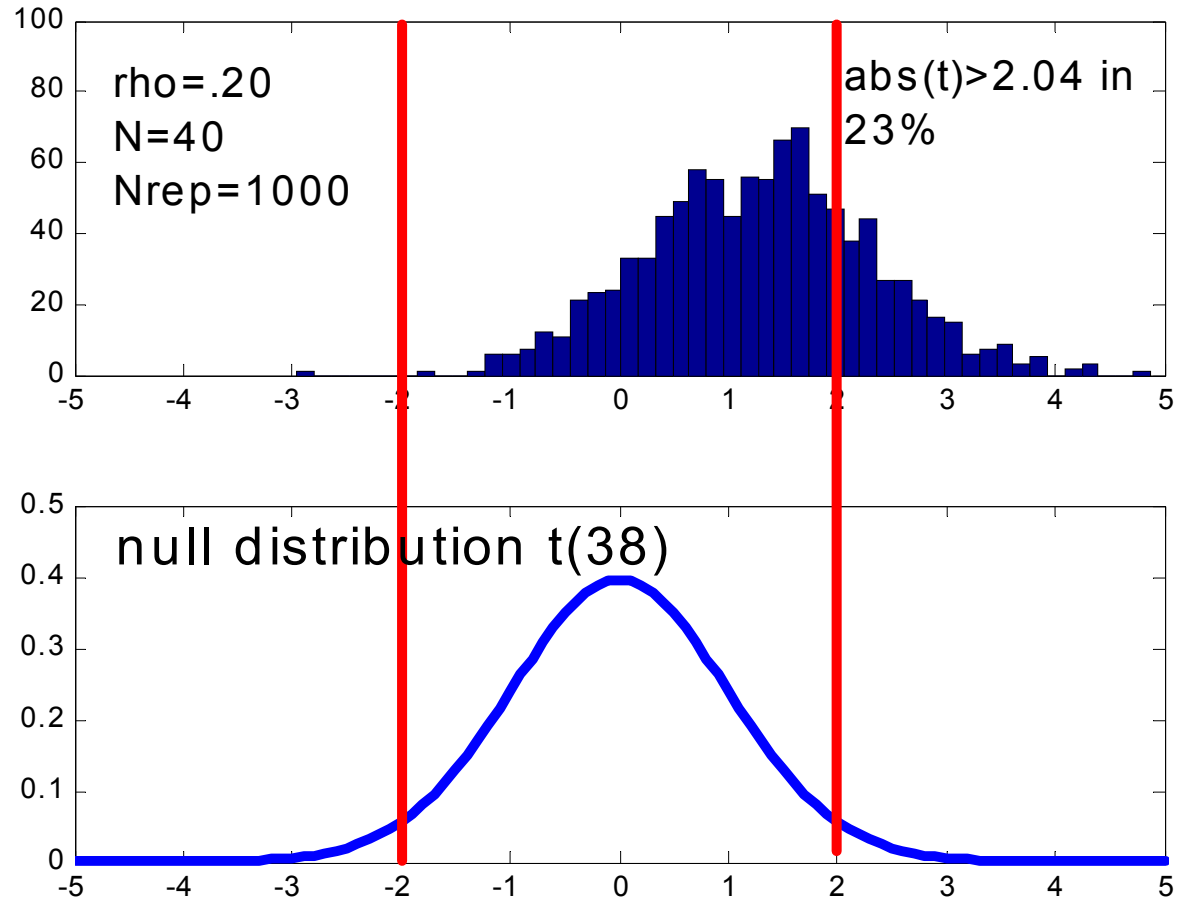
α is often chosen to equal
.05...why?

DOGMA

$N=40$, $r=0$, $nrep=1000$ – central $t(38)$,
 $\alpha=0.05$ (critical value 2.04)



Observed non-null distribution ($\rho=.2$) and null distribution



In 23% of tests of $\rho=0$, $|t|>2.024$ ($\alpha=0.05$), and thus draw the correct conclusion that of rejecting $\rho = 0$.

The probability of rejecting the null-hypothesis ($\rho=0$) correctly is $1-\beta$, or the power, when a true effect exists

Hypothesis Testing

- Correlation Coefficient hypotheses:
 - h_0 (null hypothesis) is $\rho=0$
 - h_a (alternative hypothesis) is $\rho \neq 0$
 - Two-sided test, where $\rho > 0$ or $\rho < 0$ are one-sided
- Null hypothesis usually assumes no effect
- Alternative hypothesis is the idea being tested

Summary of Possible Results

	H-0 true	H-0 false
accept H-0	$1-\alpha$	β
reject H-0	α	$1-\beta$

α =type 1 error rate

β =type 2 error rate

$1-\beta$ =statistical power

STATISTICS

		Rejection of H_0	Non-rejection of H_0
H_0 true		<p>Type I error at rate α</p>	<p>Nonsignificant result ($1 - \alpha$)</p>
H_A true		<p>Significant result ($1 - \beta$)</p>	<p>Type II error at rate β</p>

Power

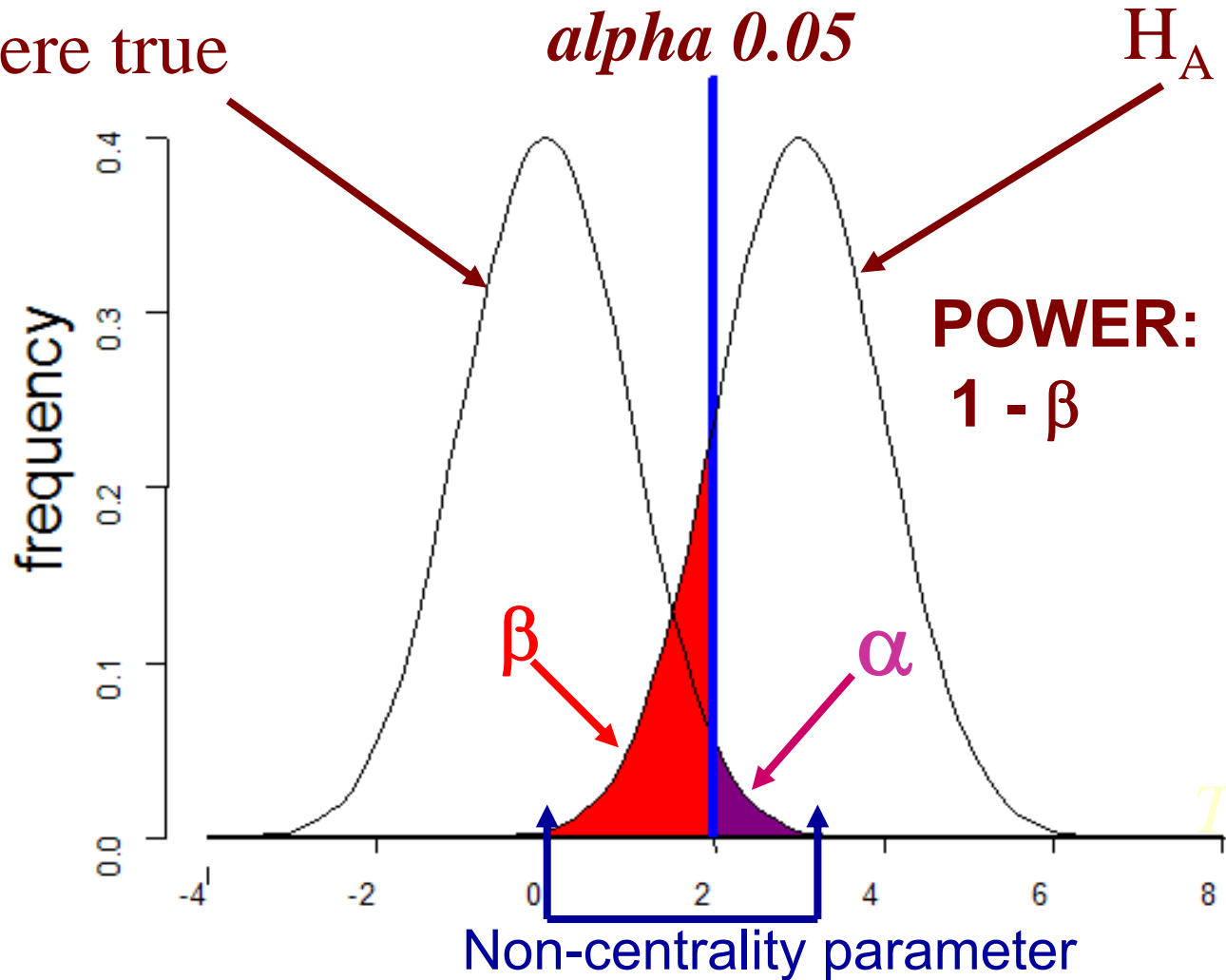
- The probability of rejection of a false null-hypothesis depends on:
 - the significance criterion (α)
 - the sample size (N)
 - the effect size (Δ)

“The probability of detecting a given effect size in a population from a sample of size N, using significance criterion α ”

Standard Case

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

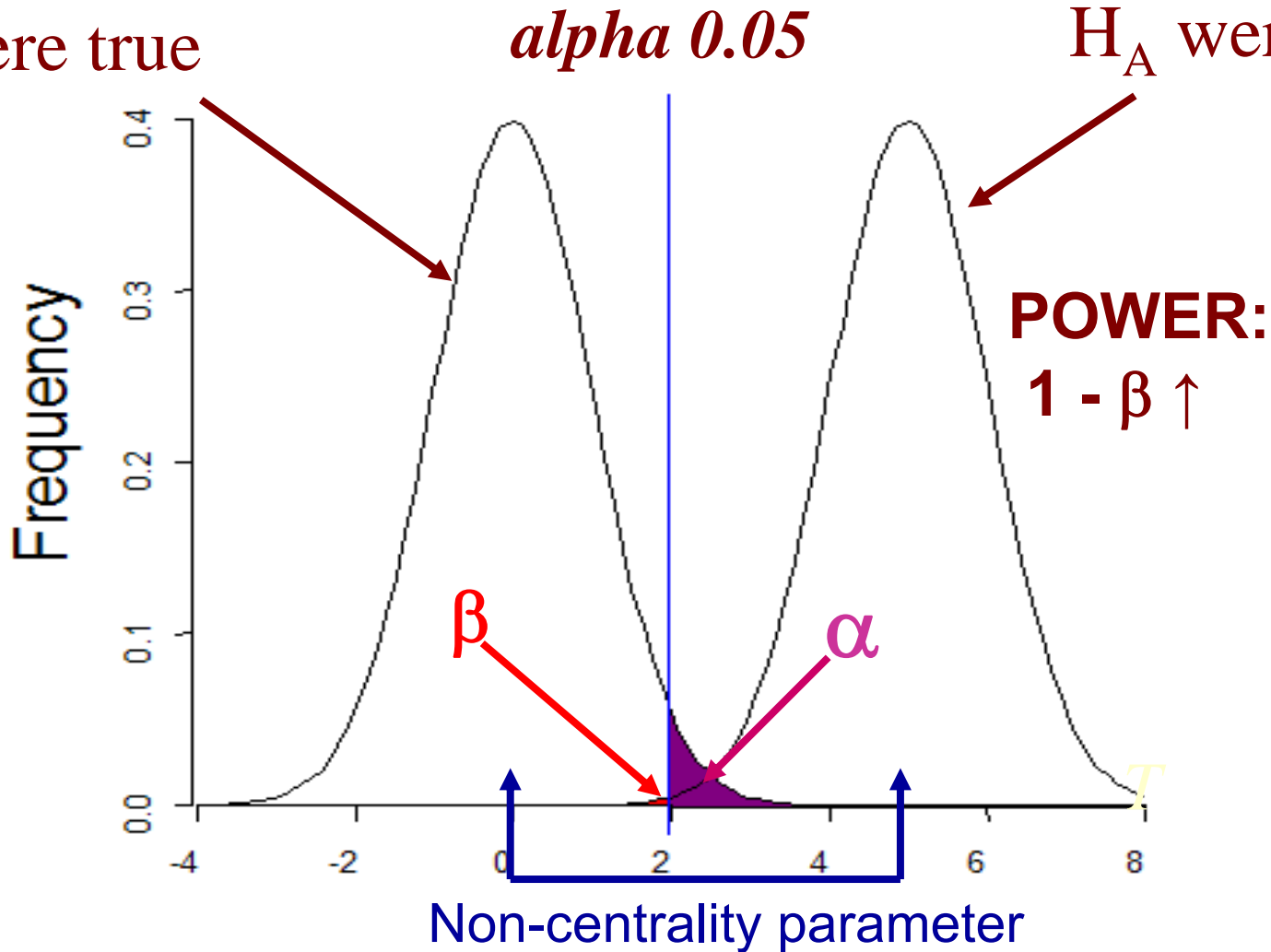
Sampling distribution if H_A were true



Increased effect size

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

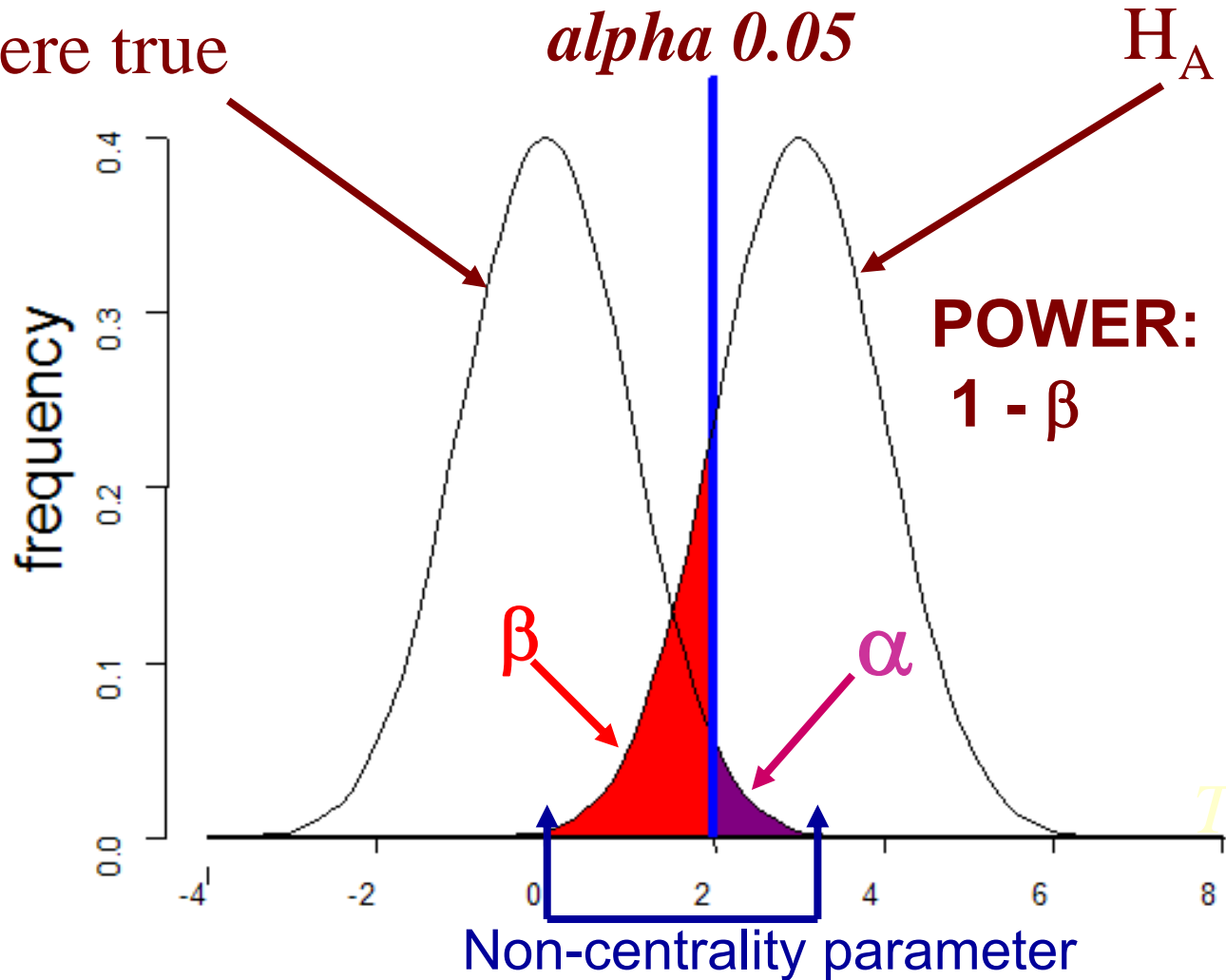
Sampling distribution if H_A were true



Standard Case

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

Sampling distribution if H_A were true

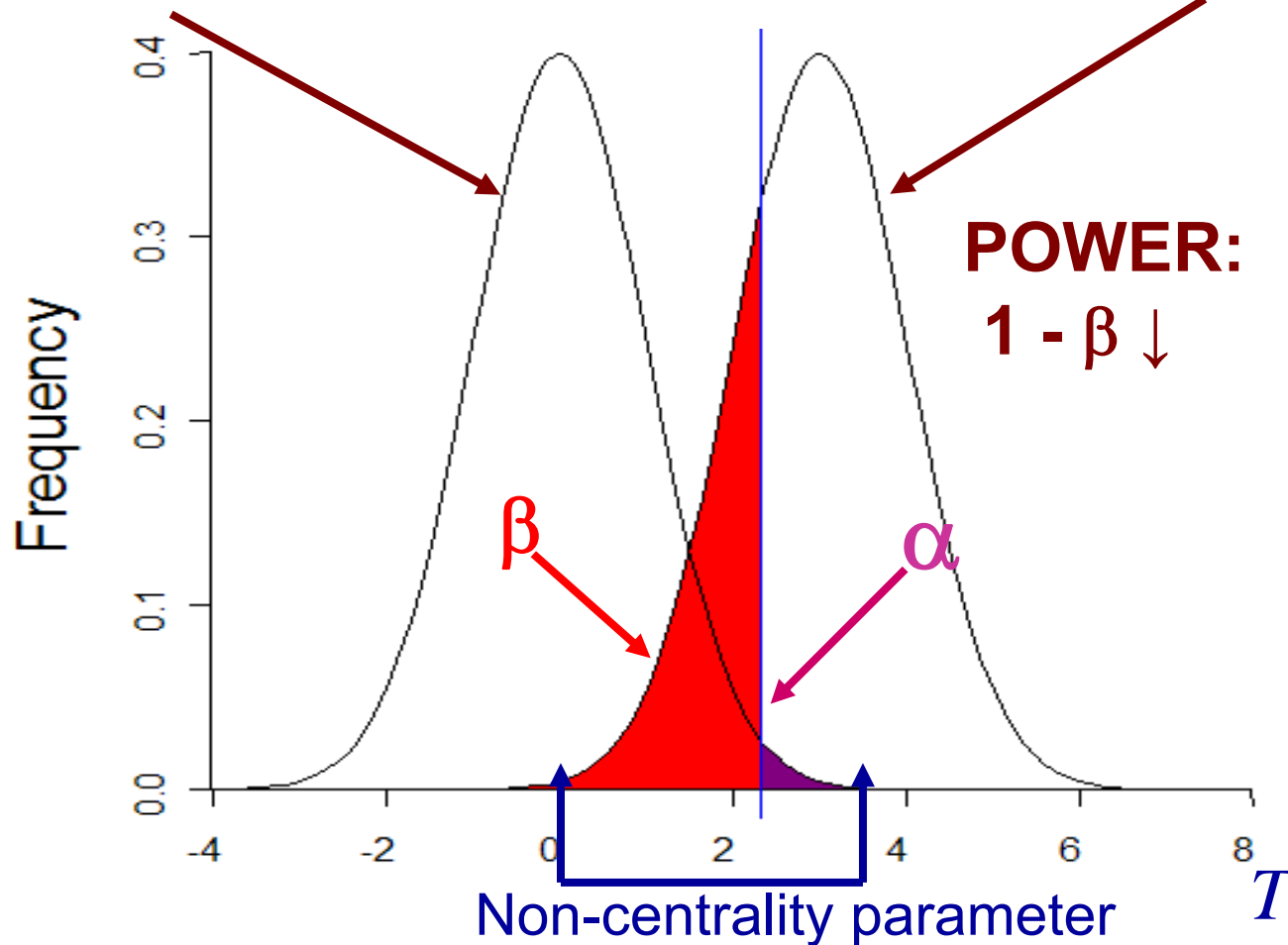


More conservative α

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

Sampling distribution if H_A were true

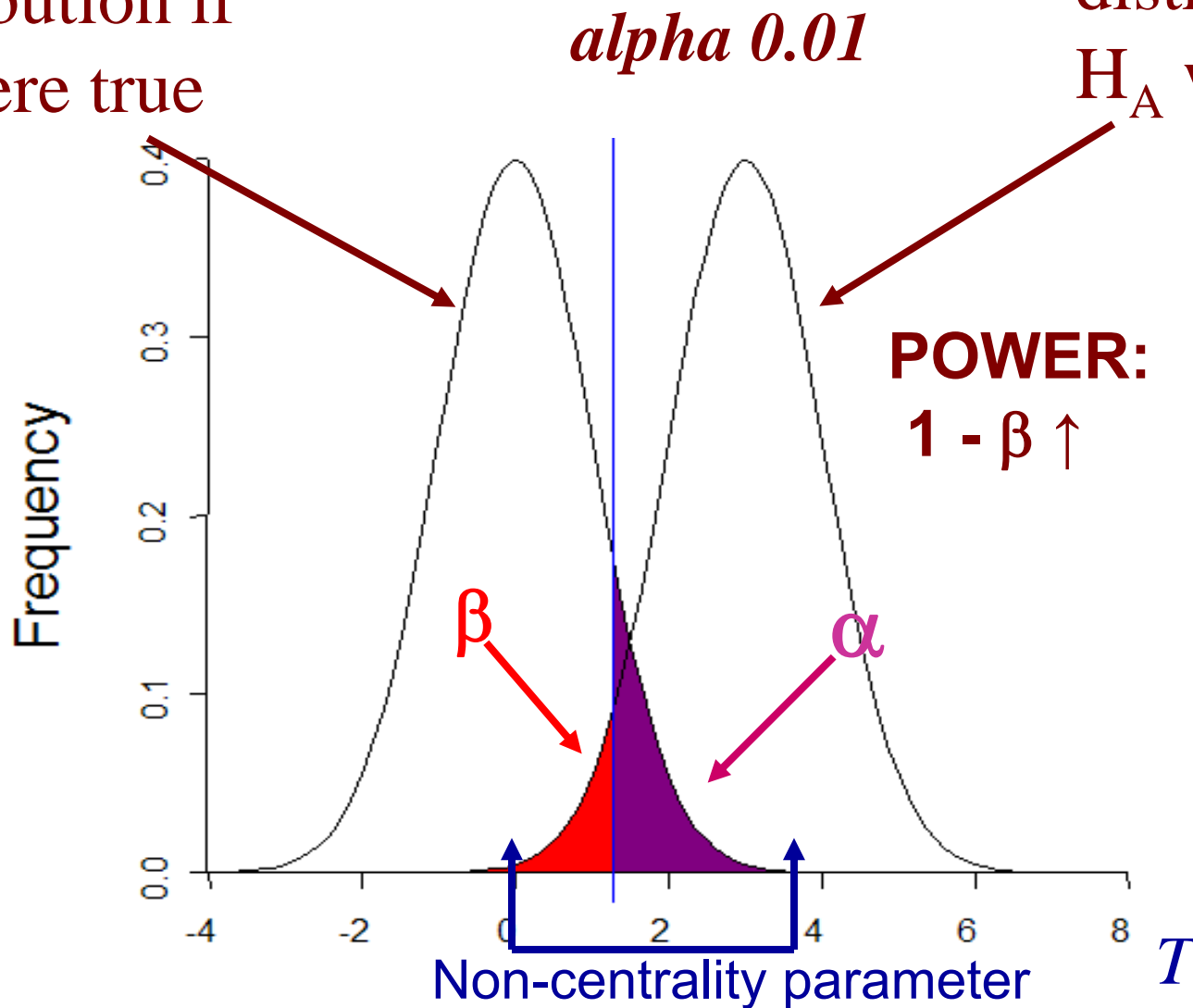
alpha 0.01



Less conservative α

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

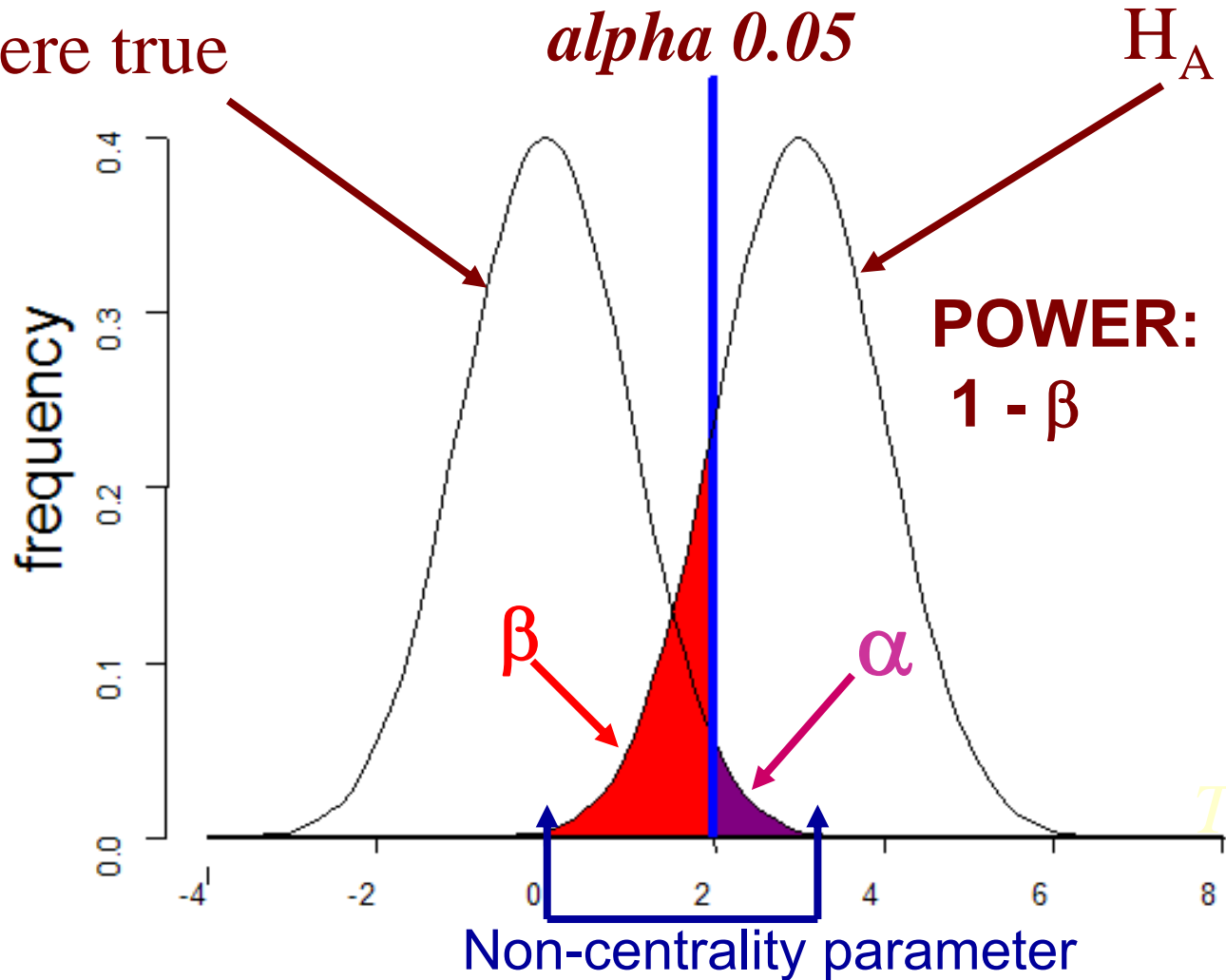
Sampling distribution if H_A were true



Standard Case

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

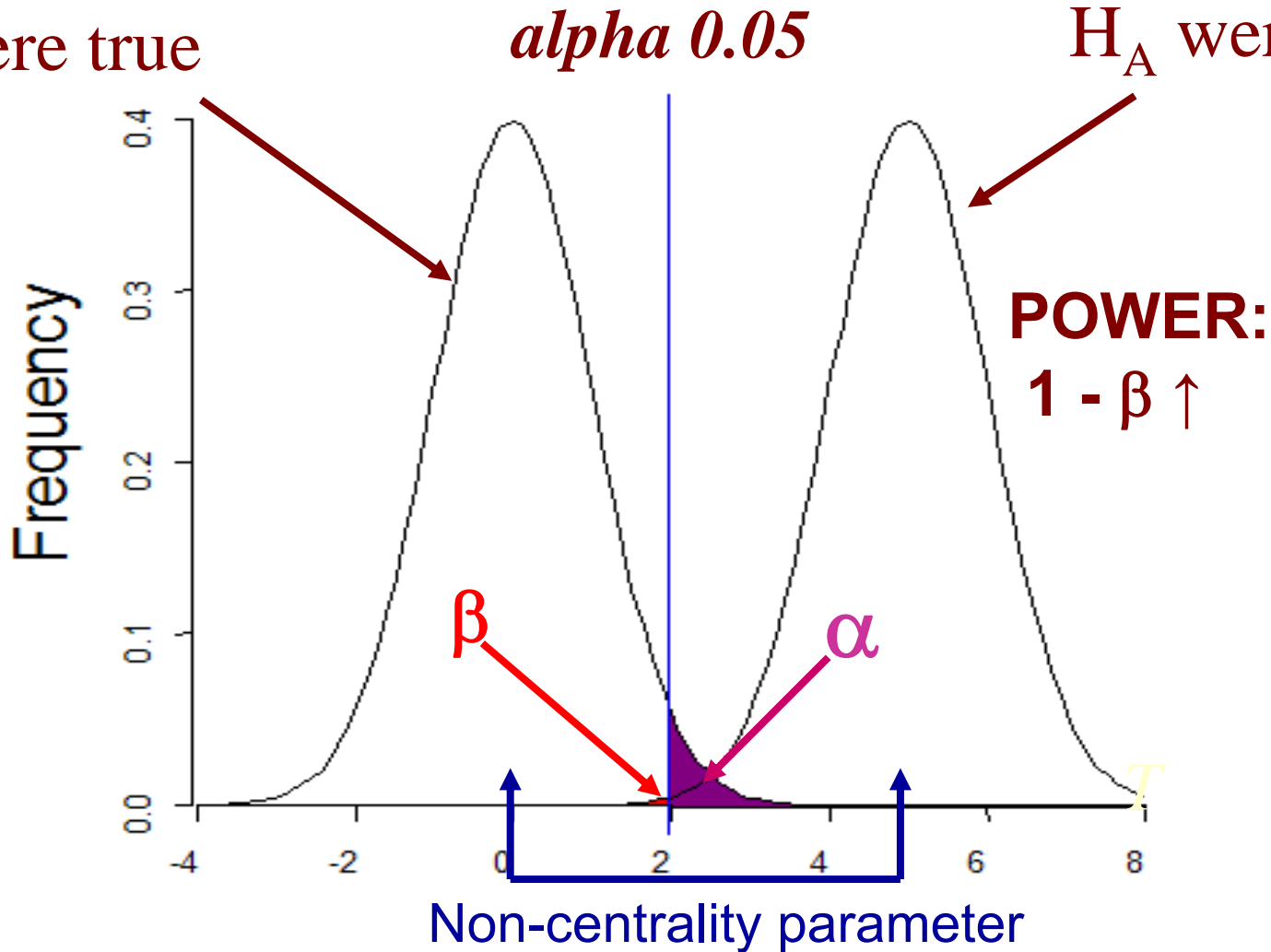
Sampling distribution if H_A were true



Increased sample size

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

Sampling distribution if H_A were true

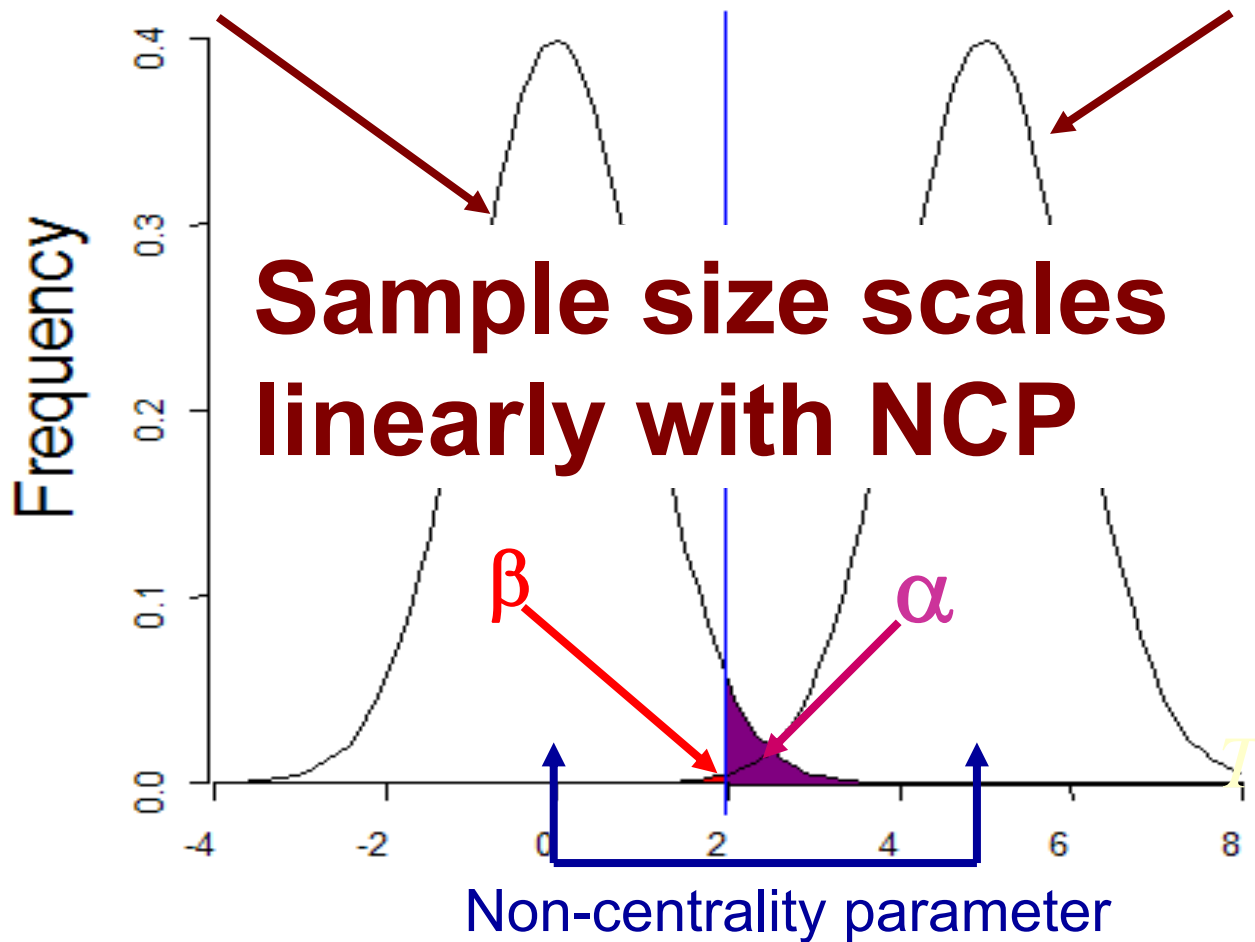


Increased sample size

Sampling distribution if H_0 were true

Sampling distribution if H_A were true

alpha 0.05



Additional Factors

- Type of Data:
 - Continuous > Ordinal > Binary
 - Do not turn “true” binary into continuous
- Multivariate analysis
- Remove confounding/bias

Effects on Power Recap

- Larger Effect Size
- Larger Sample Size
- Alpha Level shifts
 - Beware the False Positive!!!
- Empirical significance/permutation

When To Do Power Calculations?

- Generally study planning stages of study
- Occasionally with negative result
- No need if significance is achieved
- Computed to determine chances of success