



Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology



Focused Seminar Series on Statistics and Optimisations in Biological Studies

13 June — 11 July 2016, Level 5 Seminar Room, Enterprise Wing @ UTown, S'138602

Seminar 3: the Perils of the P-Value

Asst. Prof. Timothy Saunders

National University of Singapore

Date: 27 Jun 2016, Monday

Time: 4pm to 5pm

Venue: Perseverance Room, Enterprise Wing Level 5 @ UTown



Abstract

The p-value is a ubiquitous statistical tool in the life sciences. In this talk, I will give a brief history of the p-value and discuss why there are unclear standards about its use. I will give examples of where p-values can be misleading and common mistakes to avoid.

Biography

Asst. Prof. Timothy Saunders joined the Mechanobiology Institute and Department of Biological Sciences at NUS in 2013 after a post-doctoral fellowship at EMBL-Heidelberg in Germany. He uses *Drosophila* and zebrafish as model systems to understand: (1) the process of organogenesis, particularly in topologically complex organs like the gut; and (2) how timing is regulated during development. He applies techniques learnt from his background in physics (including advanced microscopy and modeling) in parallel with experiments, in order to take a *systems* approach to tackling these problems.