





CheckCell

Dan Barowy, Dimitar Gochev, Emery Berger

Most Popular Language?



Most Popular Language: C++?

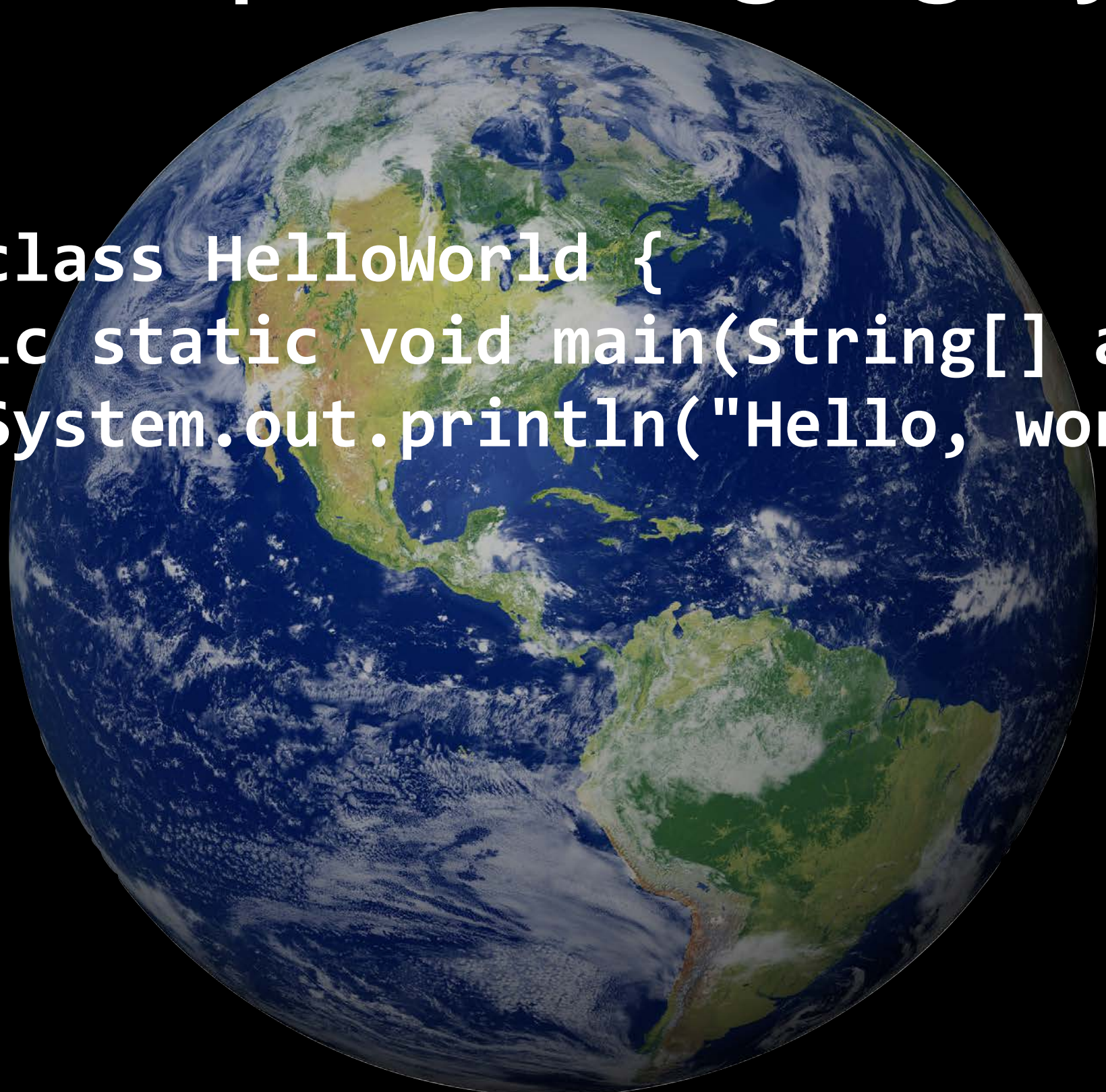
```
#include <iostream>

int main()
{
    std::cout << "Hello, world!"
              << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```



Most Popular Language: Java?

```
public class HelloWorld {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Hello, world!");  
    }  
}
```

A satellite view of the Earth, showing the Americas (North and South America) and surrounding oceans. The image is centered on the Western Hemisphere, with the Atlantic Ocean to the right and the Pacific Ocean to the left. The landmasses are shown in shades of green and brown, while the oceans are a deep blue. The Earth's curvature is visible at the top and bottom edges.

Most Popular Language: Java?

```
import static org.junit.Assert.assertEquals;
import java.io.ByteArrayOutputStream;
import java.io.PrintStream;
import org.junit.Test;

public class HelloWorldTest {
    @Test
    public void sayHelloWorld() {
        ByteArrayOutputStream outContent = captureSystemOut();

        HelloWorld.say();

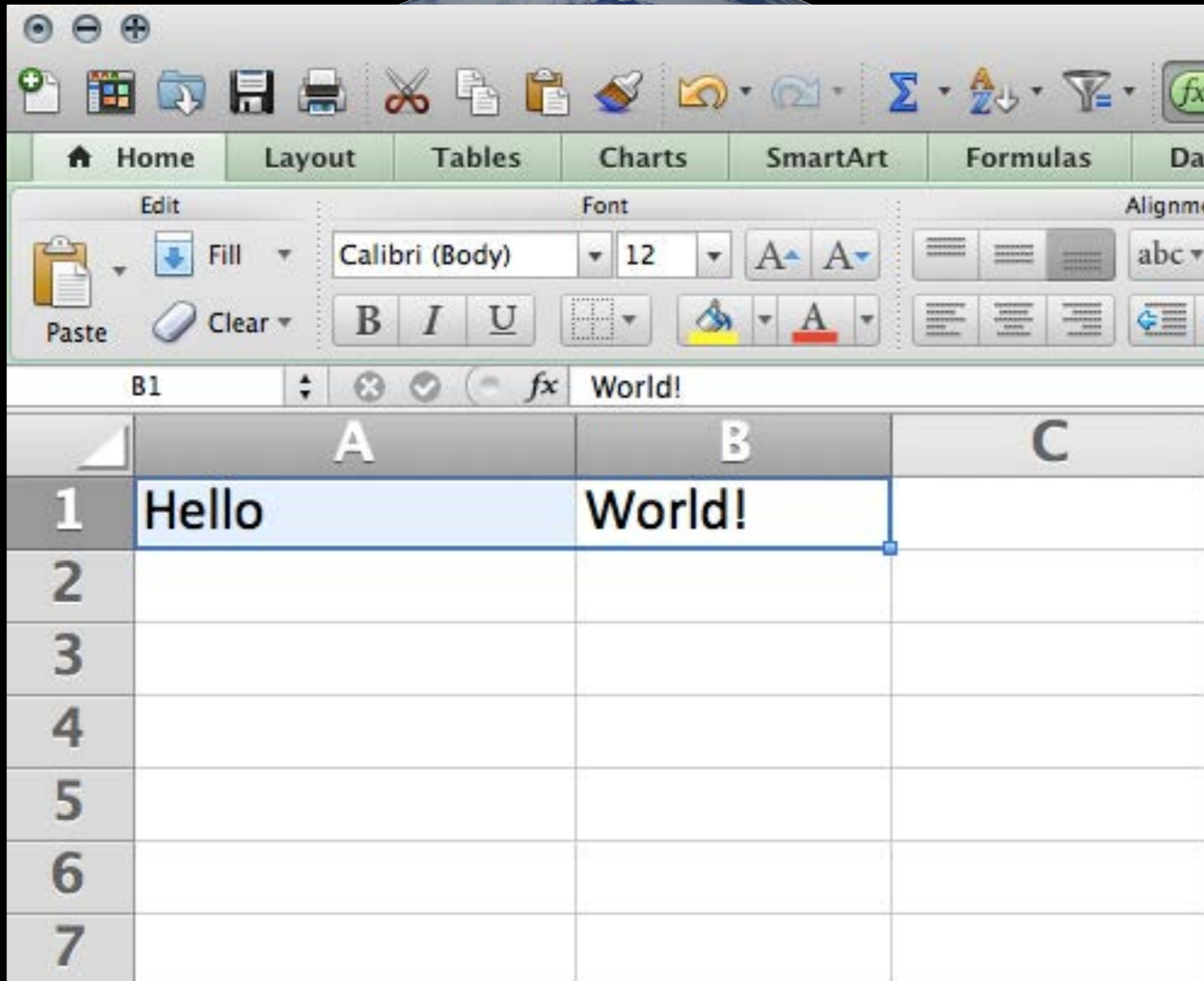
        assertEquals("Hello, World!", outContent.toString());
    }

    ByteArrayOutputStream captureSystemOut() {
        ByteArrayOutputStream outContent = new ByteArrayOutputStream();
        System.setOut(new PrintStream(outContent));
        return outContent;
    }
}

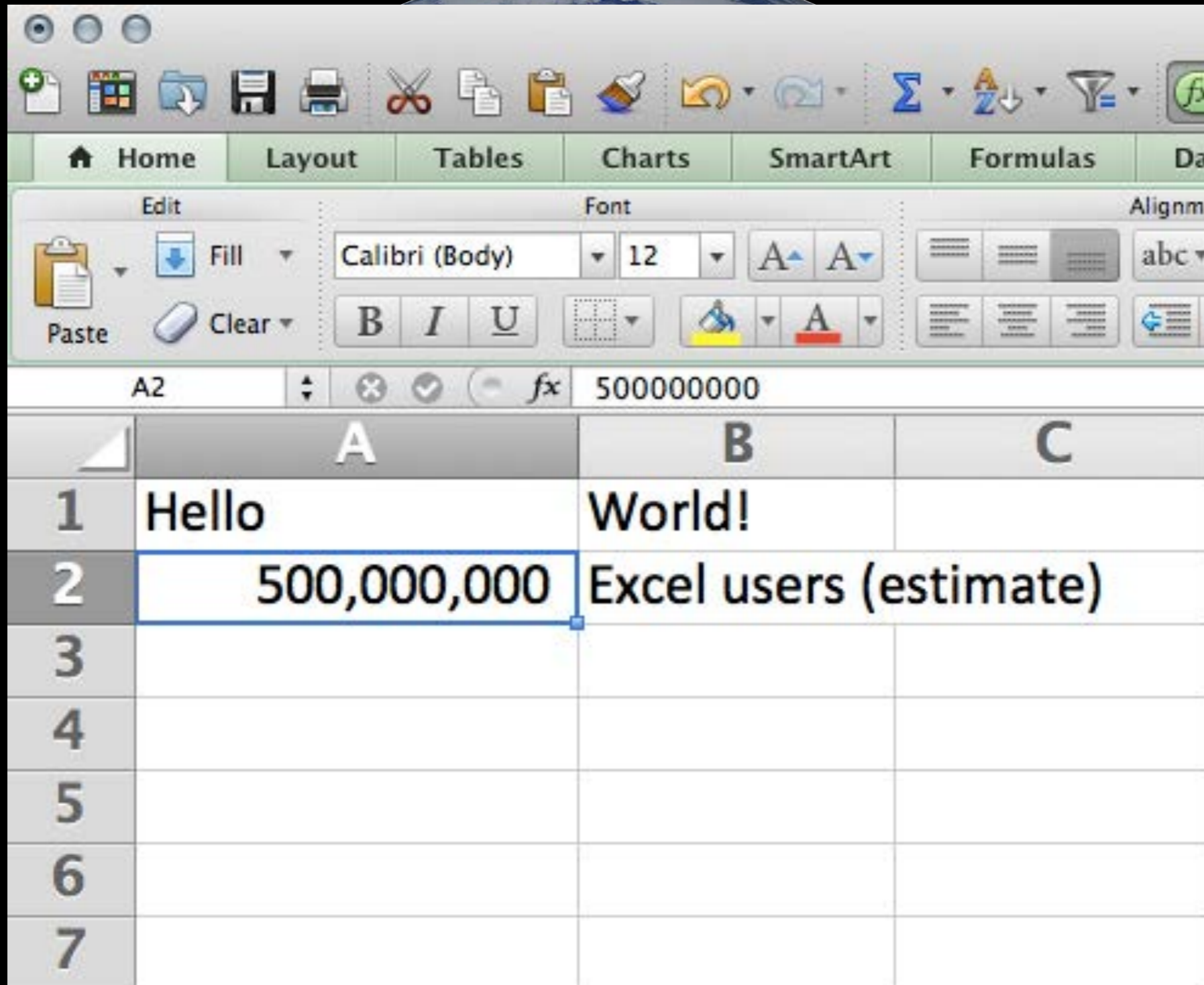
public class HelloWorld {
    public static void say() {
        System.out.print("Hello, World!");
    }
}
```



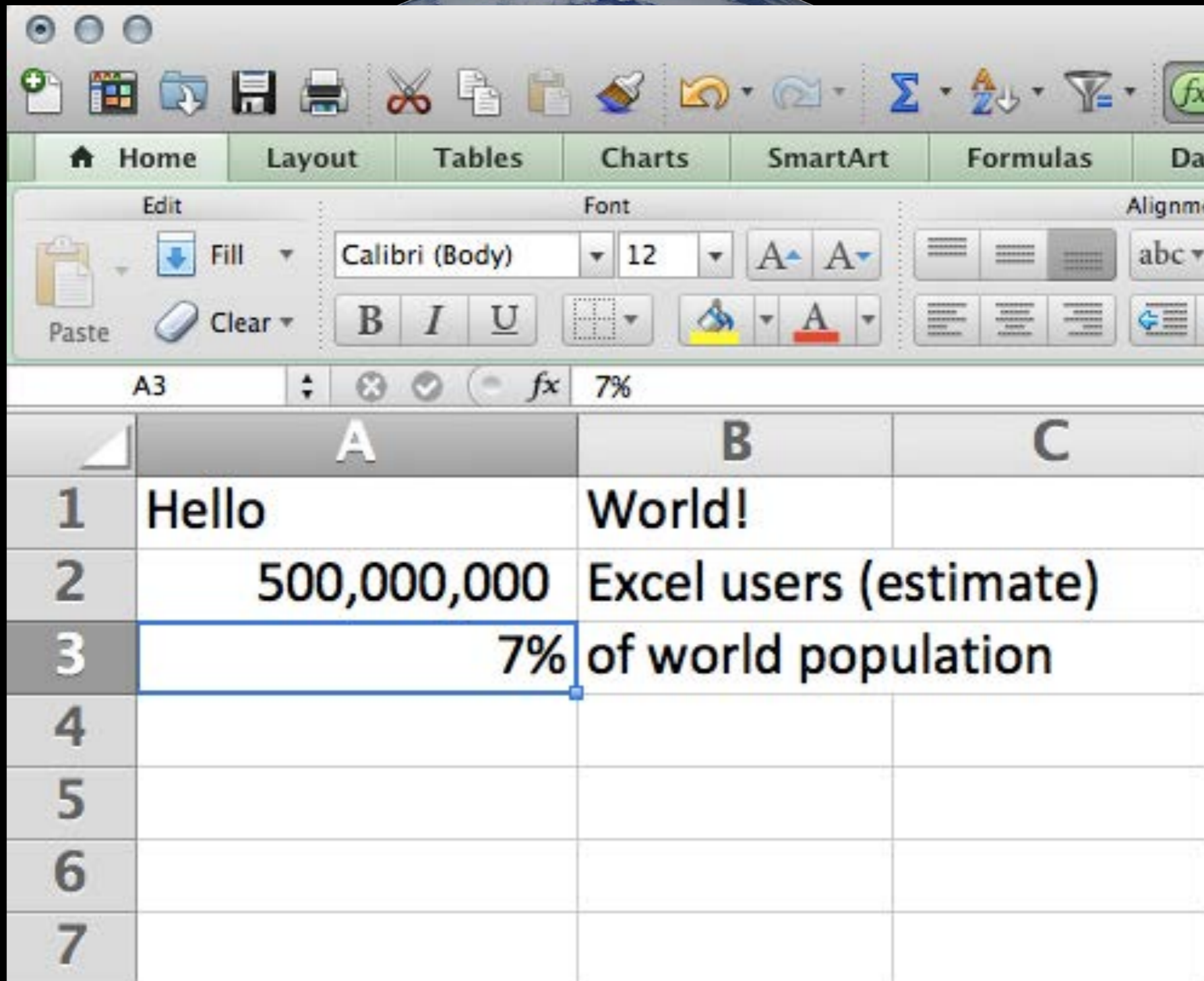
Most Popular Language: Excel



Most Popular Language: Excel



Most Popular Language: Excel



The image shows a screenshot of the Microsoft Excel application interface. The ribbon is set to the 'Home' tab, with the 'Font' group selected. The spreadsheet contains the following data:

	A	B	C
1	Hello	World!	
2	500,000,000	Excel users (estimate)	
3	7%	of world population	
4			
5			
6			
7			



Tim Worstall
Contributor

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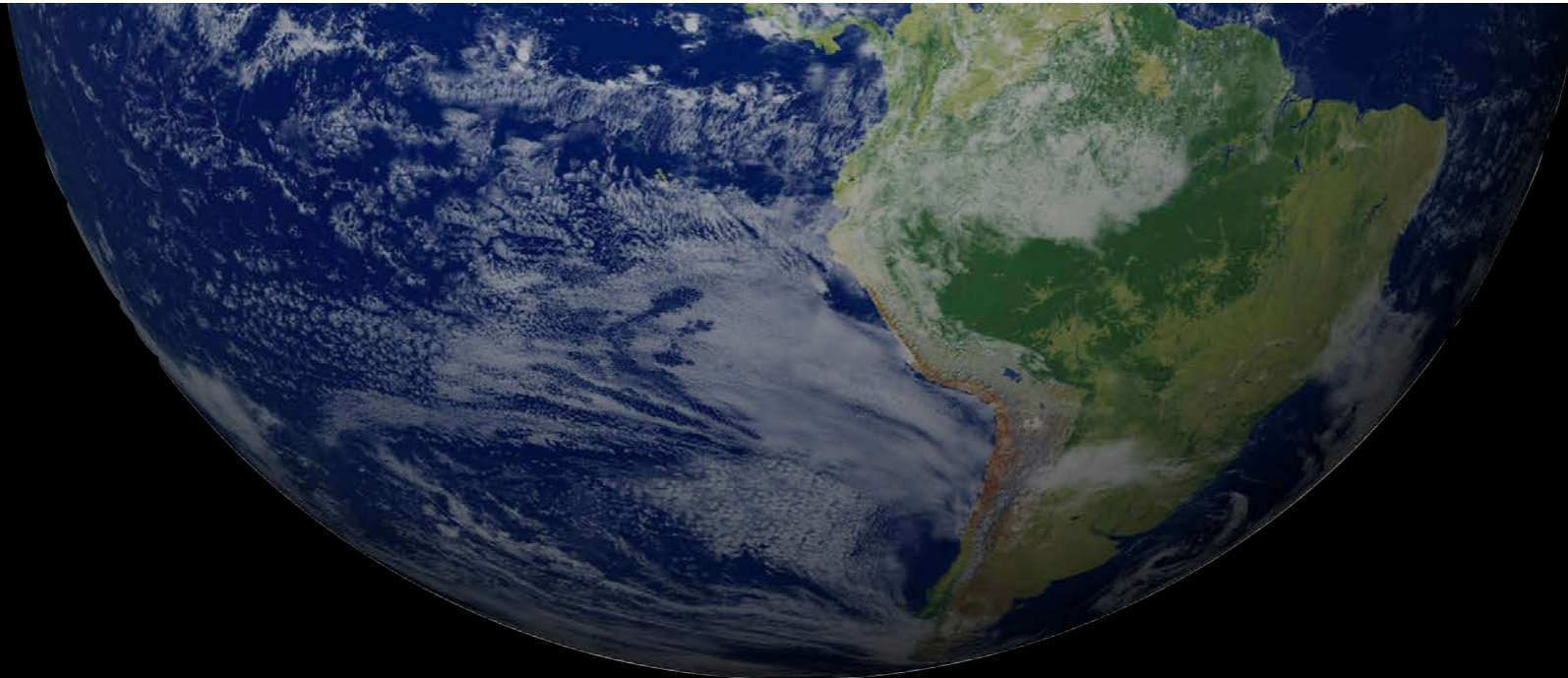
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TECH 2/13/2013 @ 9:37AM | 91,335 views

Microsoft's Excel Might Be The Most Dangerous Software On The Planet

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No, really, it's possible that [Microsoft](#)'s Excel is the most dangerous software on the planet. Yes, more dangerous than rogue code running a nuclear power plant, than the Stuxnet that was deliberately sent off to sabotage [Iran](#)'s nuclear program, worse, even, than whatever rent in the fabric of space time led to the invention of Lolcats. Really, that serious.





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BUSINESS > SMALL BIZ

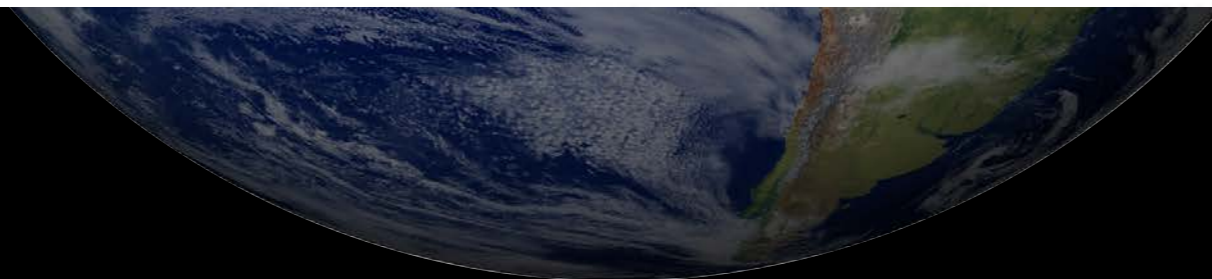
Excel snafu costs firm \$24m

Some cleric, some error

By Drew Cullen, 19th June 2003

A simple spreadsheet error cost a firm a whopping US\$24m.

The mistake led to TransAlta, a big Canadian power generator, buying more US power transmission hedging contracts in May at higher prices than it should have.



Flintshire County Council school cash blunder 'down to spreadsheet error'

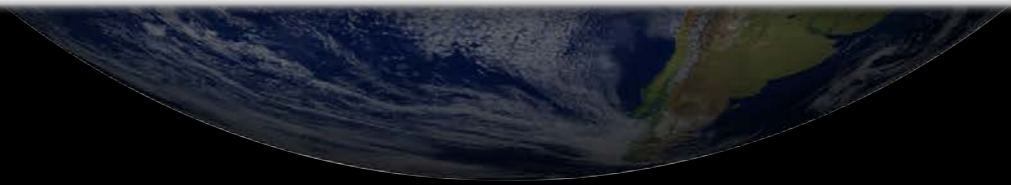
A £1M council cash 'cock-up' which prompted calls for the resignation of a top Tory councillor was down to a spreadsheet error, it has been claimed.



A £1M council cash 'cock-up' which prompted calls for the resignation of a top Tory councillor was down to a spreadsheet error, it has been claimed.

County Hall officials have not published details of an internal investigation carried out in the wake of the blunder, which left Flintshire Council £1m out of pocket after they over-allocated money cash to the county's 12 high schools last year.

But the Chronicle understands the mix-up occurred because someone 'put money in the wrong column' – and no one spotted it before the money was handed out.



Computing error at Fidelity's Magellan fund

Kathy Godfrey <kgodfrey@BBN.COM>

Wed, 4 Jan 95 17:44:41 EST

There was a big flap recently over Fidelity's Magellan fund estimating in November that they would make a \$4.32/share distribution at the end of year, and then not doing so. A letter of explanation was sent to the shareholders (including me) from J. Gary Burkhead, the President of Fidelity, including the following pertinent items:

"During the estimating process, a tax accountant is required to transcribe the net realized gain or loss from the fund's financial records (which were correct at all times) to a separate spreadsheet, where additional calculations are performed. The error occurred when the accountant omitted the minus sign on a net capital loss of \$1.3 billion and incorrectly treated it as a net capital gain on this separate spreadsheet. This meant that the dividend estimate spreadsheet was off by \$2.6 billion....

"Some people have asked how, in this age of technology, such a mistake could be made. While many of our processes are computerized, the requirements of the tax code are complex and dictate that some steps be handled manually by

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FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

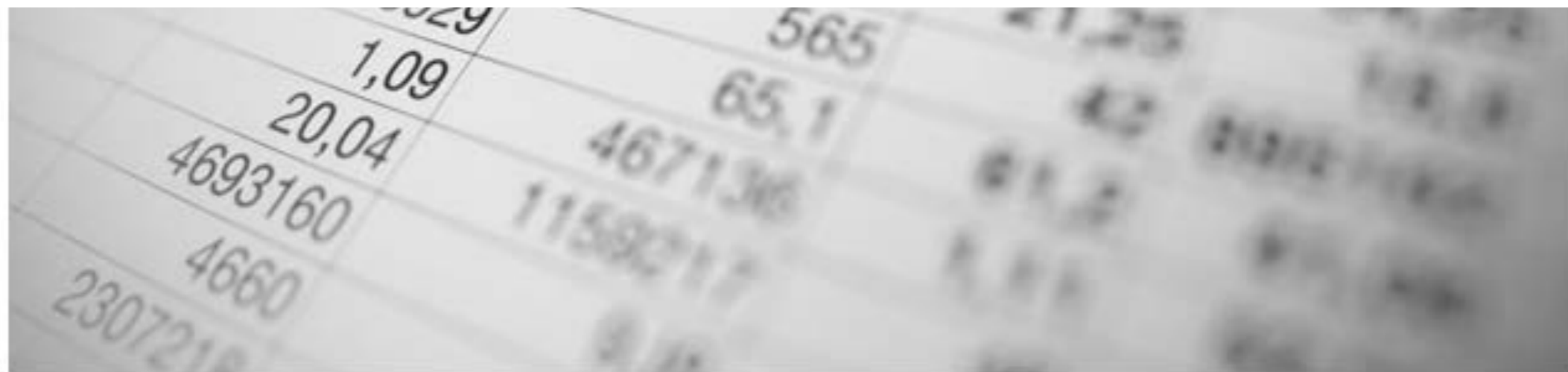
By Peter Coy  | April 18, 2013



SEND TO [Kindle](#)

How big is this mistake?

Reinhart and Rogoff wrote in their 2010 paper that average annual growth was negative 0.1 percent in countries with episodes of gross government debt equal to 90 percent or more of GDP between 1945 and 2009. Liberal economists have been critical of their work for years (just economists being their usual cranky selves), but now three economists at UMass say Reinhart and Rogoff made several mistakes and omissions. According to the UMass scholars, the “corrected” number is positive 2.2 percent—which means GDP still grows, even when debt levels are very high.



Photograph by Gregor Schuster

The Excel Depression

By PAUL KRUGMAN

Published: April 18, 2013 |  470 Comments

In this age of information, math errors can lead to disaster. NASA's [Mars Orbiter crashed](#) because engineers forgot to convert to metric measurements; JPMorgan Chase's ["London Whale" venture went bad](#) in part because modelers divided by a sum instead of an average. So, did an Excel coding error destroy the economies of the Western world?

 [Enlarge This Image](#)



Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times

Paul Krugman

[Go to Columnist Page »](#)


The story so far: At the beginning of 2010, two Harvard economists, Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff, circulated a paper, ["Growth in a Time of Debt,"](#) that purported to identify a critical "threshold," a tipping point, for government indebtedness. Once debt exceeds 90 percent of gross domestic product, they claimed, economic growth drops off sharply.

Ms. Reinhart and Mr. Rogoff had credibility thanks to a widely admired earlier book on the history of financial crises, and their timing was impeccable. The paper came out just after Greece went into crisis and played right into the desire of many officials to "pivot" from stimulus to austerity. As a result, the paper instantly became famous; it was, and is, surely the most influential economic analysis of recent years.

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What's the Problem?

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

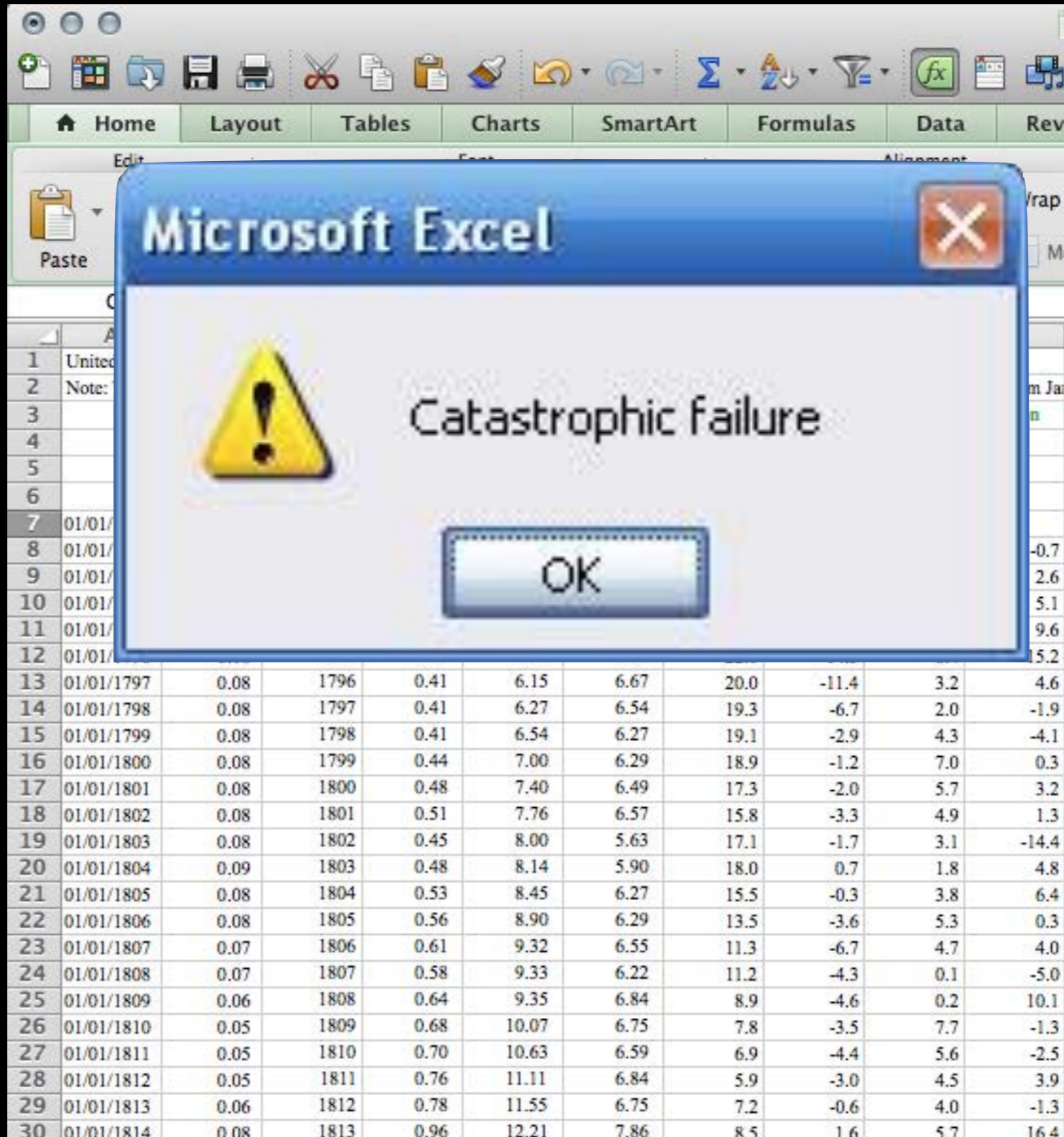
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	United States									
2	Note: The first fiscal year for the U.S. Government started Jan. 1, 1789. Congress changed the beginning of the fiscal year from Jan									
3		Debt	Year	Nominal GDP	Real GDP	GDP	Debt/GDP	Debt	Real GDP	Inflation
4		US Treasury Direct		GDP		deflator		reversals	growth	
5		billions		billions		2005=100				
6										
7	01/01/1791	0.08	1790	0.19	4.03	4.71	39.7			
8	01/01/1792	0.08	1791	0.20	4.27	4.68	38.6		6.0	-0.7
9	01/01/1793	0.08	1792	0.22	4.58	4.80	36.5		7.3	2.6
10	01/01/1794	0.08	1793	0.25	4.95	5.05	31.4	-8.3	8.1	5.1
11	01/01/1795	0.08	1794	0.31	5.60	5.54	26.0	-12.6	13.1	9.6
12	01/01/1796	0.08	1795	0.38	5.96	6.38	22.0	-14.5	6.4	15.2
13	01/01/1797	0.08	1796	0.41	6.15	6.67	20.0	-11.4	3.2	4.6
14	01/01/1798	0.08	1797	0.41	6.27	6.54	19.3	-6.7	2.0	-1.9
15	01/01/1799	0.08	1798	0.41	6.54	6.27	19.1	-2.9	4.3	-4.1
16	01/01/1800	0.08	1799	0.44	7.00	6.29	18.9	-1.2	7.0	0.3
17	01/01/1801	0.08	1800	0.48	7.40	6.49	17.3	-2.0	5.7	3.2
18	01/01/1802	0.08	1801	0.51	7.76	6.57	15.8	-3.3	4.9	1.3
19	01/01/1803	0.08	1802	0.45	8.00	5.63	17.1	-1.7	3.1	-14.4
20	01/01/1804	0.09	1803	0.48	8.14	5.90	18.0	0.7	1.8	4.8
21	01/01/1805	0.08	1804	0.53	8.45	6.27	15.5	-0.3	3.8	6.4
22	01/01/1806	0.08	1805	0.56	8.90	6.29	13.5	-3.6	5.3	0.3
23	01/01/1807	0.07	1806	0.61	9.32	6.55	11.3	-6.7	4.7	4.0
24	01/01/1808	0.07	1807	0.58	9.33	6.22	11.2	-4.3	0.1	-5.0
25	01/01/1809	0.06	1808	0.64	9.35	6.84	8.9	-4.6	0.2	10.1
26	01/01/1810	0.05	1809	0.68	10.07	6.75	7.8	-3.5	7.7	-1.3
27	01/01/1811	0.05	1810	0.70	10.63	6.59	6.9	-4.4	5.6	-2.5
28	01/01/1812	0.05	1811	0.76	11.11	6.84	5.9	-3.0	4.5	3.9
29	01/01/1813	0.06	1812	0.78	11.55	6.75	7.2	-0.6	4.0	-1.3
30	01/01/1814	0.08	1813	0.96	12.21	7.86	8.5	1.6	5.7	16.4

Data >> Formulas

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the following data table:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	United States									
2	Note: The first fiscal year for the U.S. Government started Jan. 1, 1789. Congress changed the beginning of the fiscal year from Jan									
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8	01/01/1792	0.08	1791	0.20	4.27	4.68	38.6		6.0	-0.7
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10	01/01/1794	0.08	1793	0.25	4.95	5.05	31.4	-8.3	8.1	5.1
11	01/01/1795	0.08	1794	0.31	5.60	5.54	26.0	-12.6	13.1	9.6
12	01/01/1796	0.08	1795	0.38	5.96	6.38	22.0	-14.5	6.4	15.2
13	01/01/1797	0.08	1796	0.41	6.15	6.67	20.0	-11.4	3.2	4.6
14	01/01/1798	0.08	1797	0.41	6.27	6.54	19.3	-6.7	2.0	-1.9
15	01/01/1799	0.08	1798	0.41	6.54	6.27	19.1	-2.9	4.3	-4.1
16	01/01/1800	0.08	1799	0.44	7.00	6.29	18.9	-1.2	7.0	0.3
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25	01/01/1809	0.06	1808	0.64	9.35	6.84	8.9	-4.6	0.2	10.1
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Data >> Formulas



The image shows a screenshot of the Microsoft Excel application interface. A blue error dialog box is centered on the screen, titled "Microsoft Excel". It features a yellow warning triangle icon with a black exclamation mark and the text "Catastrophic failure". Below the text is a single "OK" button. The background shows the Excel ribbon with tabs for Home, Layout, Tables, Charts, SmartArt, Formulas, Data, and Review. The spreadsheet grid is visible, with rows 1 through 30 and columns A through J. The data in the spreadsheet includes dates in column A and numerical values in columns B through J.

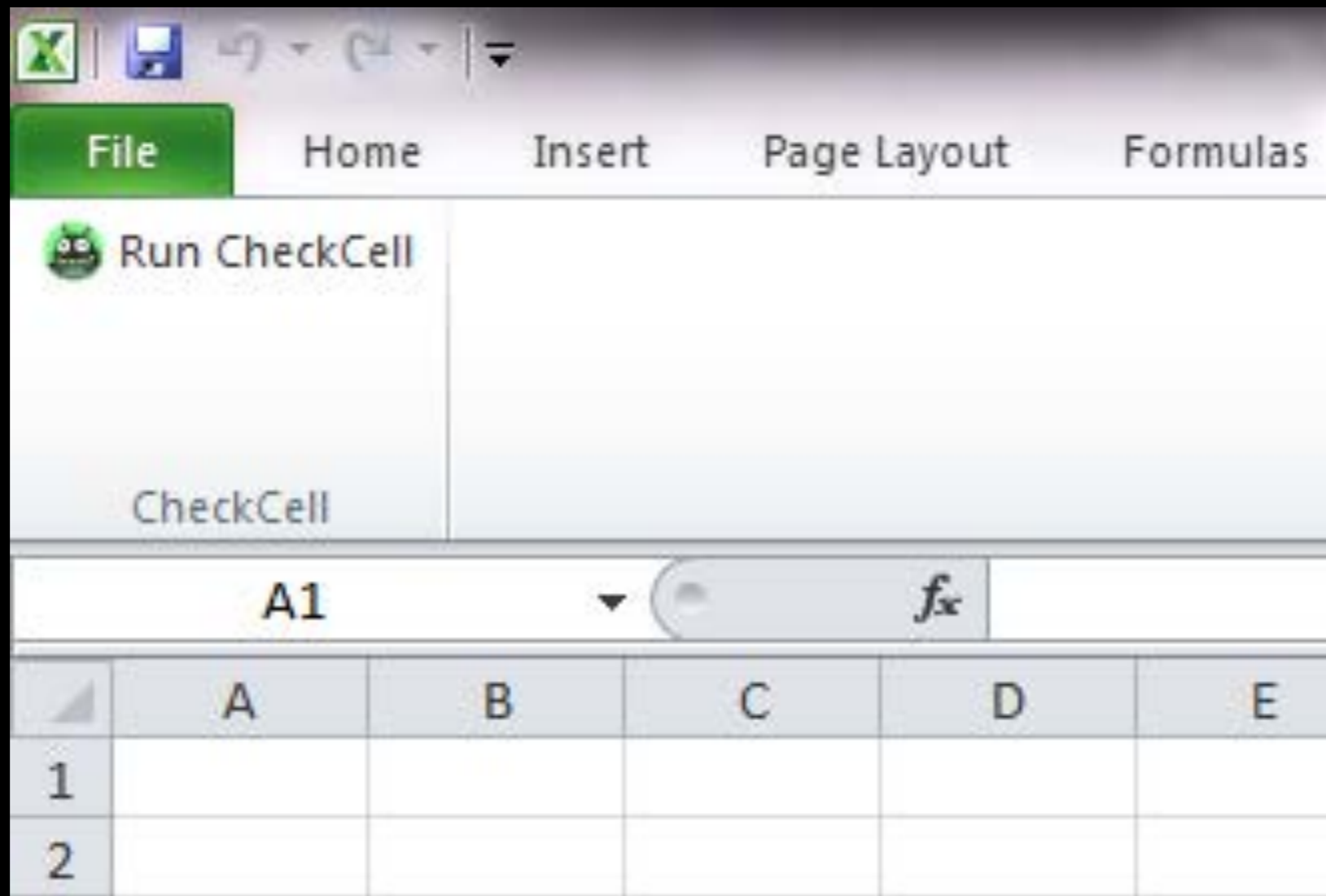
Row	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E	Column F	Column G	Column H	Column I	Column J
1	United									
2	Note:									
3										
4										
5										
6										
7	01/01/									
8	01/01/									-0.7
9	01/01/									2.6
10	01/01/									5.1
11	01/01/									9.6
12	01/01/									15.2
13	01/01/1797	0.08	1796	0.41	6.15	6.67	20.0	-11.4	3.2	4.6
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24	01/01/1808	0.07	1807	0.58	9.33	6.22	11.2	-4.3	0.1	-5.0
25	01/01/1809	0.06	1808	0.64	9.35	6.84	8.9	-4.6	0.2	10.1
26	01/01/1810	0.05	1809	0.68	10.07	6.75	7.8	-3.5	7.7	-1.3
27	01/01/1811	0.05	1810	0.70	10.63	6.59	6.9	-4.4	5.6	-2.5
28	01/01/1812	0.05	1811	0.76	11.11	6.84	5.9	-3.0	4.5	3.9
29	01/01/1813	0.06	1812	0.78	11.55	6.75	7.2	-0.6	4.0	-1.3
30	01/01/1814	0.08	1813	0.96	12.21	7.86	8.5	1.6	5.7	16.4

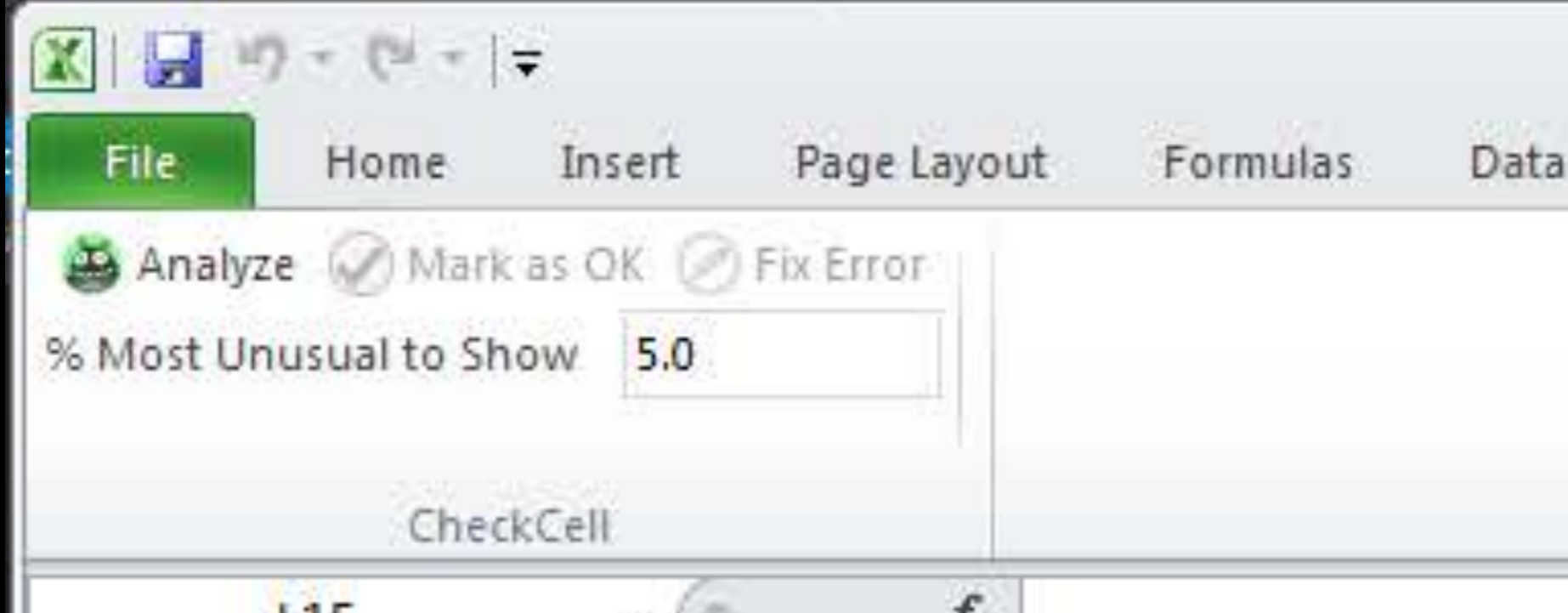
CheckCell



leverages interaction of data & formulas to find *potential* data bugs

CheckCell





Values with
unusually high impact:
really important to be correct!

5	HW 4	93	Final grade	84.275
6	Quiz 1	87	Pass/Fail	Fail
7	Quiz 2	90		
8	Quiz 3	85		
9	Quiz 4	91		
10	Exam 1	84		
11	Exam 2	78		
12				



File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data

Analyze Mark as OK Fix Error

% Most Unusual to Show

CheckCell

B11 78

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%	
2	HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%	
3	HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%	
4	HW 3	92				
5	HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275	
6	Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail	
7	Quiz 2	90				
8	Quiz 3	85				
9	Quiz 4	91				
10	Exam 1	84				
11	Exam 2	78				
12						



File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review Vi

Analyze Mark as OK Fix Error

% Most Unusual to Show

CheckCell

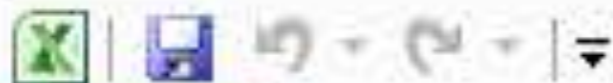
B11 fx 78

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Assignment	Grade		Homework	20%			
2	HW 1							
3	HW 2							
4	HW 3							
5	HW 4							
6	Quiz 1							
7	Quiz 2							
8	Quiz 3							
9	Quiz 4							
10	Exam 1	84						
11	Exam 2	78						
12								

CellFixForm

Enter the corrected value:

Cancel Fix



Analyze Mark as OK Fix Error

% Most Unusual to Show

CheckCell

B11 fx 87

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%	
2	HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%	
3	HW 2	77			50%	
4	HW 3	92				
5	HW 4	93			86.525	
6	Quiz 1	87			Pass	
7	Quiz 2	90				
8	Quiz 3	85				
9	Quiz 4	91				
10	Exam 1	84				
11	Exam 2	87				
12						

No bugs remain.

OK

How Does CheckCell Work?

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with a formula bar at the top. The formula bar displays 'B11' on the left, a dropdown arrow, a function icon 'fx', and the value '78'. The spreadsheet grid has columns A through F and rows 1 through 12. The 'CheckCell' formula is applied to cell B11, which contains the value 78. The cell B11 is highlighted with a red background and a blue border. The spreadsheet data is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%	
2	HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%	
3	HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%	
4	HW 3	92				
5	HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275	
6	Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail	
7	Quiz 2	90				
8	Quiz 3	85				
9	Quiz 4	91				
10	Exam 1	84				
11	Exam 2	78				
12						

<u>Grade</u>	<i>Homework</i>	20%
84		
77		
92		
93		
87		
90		
85		
91		
84		
78		

How Does CheckCell Work?

Combination of dependence analysis and non-parametric statistical analysis

<u>Grade</u>	<i>Homework</i>	20%
84		
77		
92		
93		
87		
90		
85		
91		
84		
78		

How Does CheckCell Work?

**Combination of dependence analysis
and non-parametric statistical analysis**
(assumes nothing about data distribution)

How Does CheckCell Work?

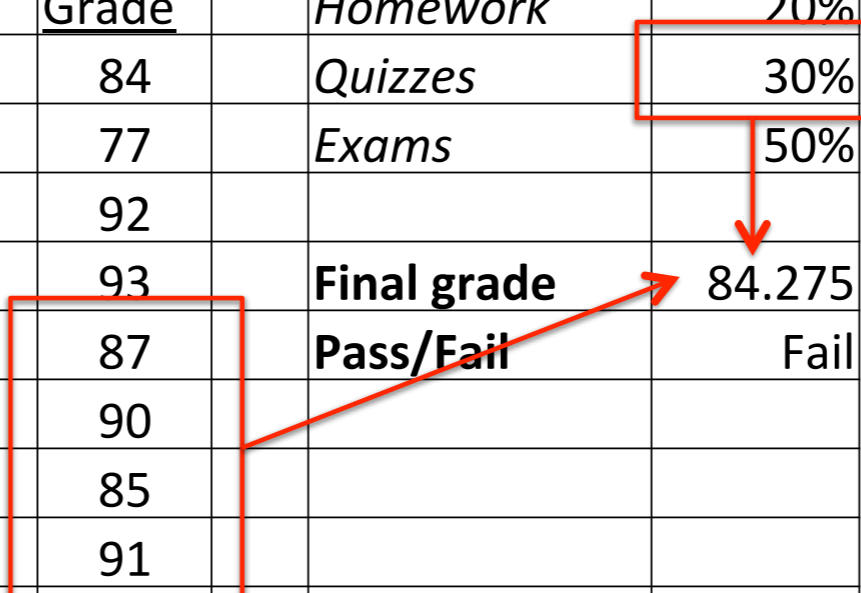
<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%
HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%
HW 3	92			
HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275
Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail
Quiz 2	90			
Quiz 3	85			
Quiz 4	91			
Exam 1	84			
Exam 2	78			

Dependence Analysis

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%
HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%
HW 3	92			
HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275
Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail
Quiz 2	90			
Quiz 3	85			
Quiz 4	91			
Exam 1	84			
Exam 2	78			

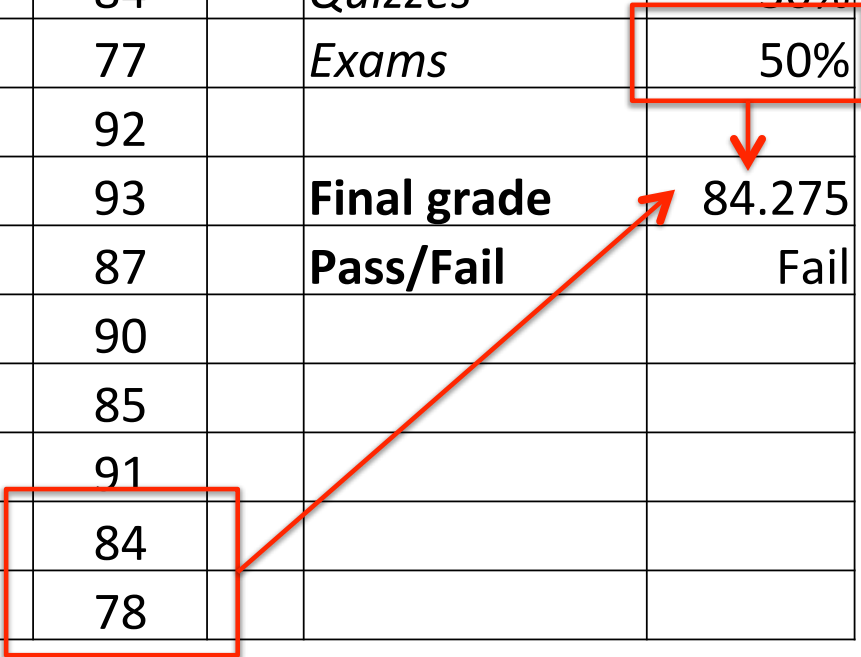
Dependence Analysis

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%
HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%
HW 3	92			
HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275
Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail
Quiz 2	90			
Quiz 3	85			
Quiz 4	91			
Exam 1	84			
Exam 2	78			



Dependence Analysis

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%
HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%
HW 3	92			
HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275
Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail
Quiz 2	90			
Quiz 3	85			
Quiz 4	91			
Exam 1	84			
Exam 2	78			



Dependence Analysis

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Grade</u>		<i>Homework</i>	20%
HW 1	84		<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
HW 2	77		<i>Exams</i>	50%
HW 3	92			
HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275
Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	→ Fail
Quiz 2	90			
Quiz 3	85			
Quiz 4	91			
Exam 1	84			
Exam 2	78			

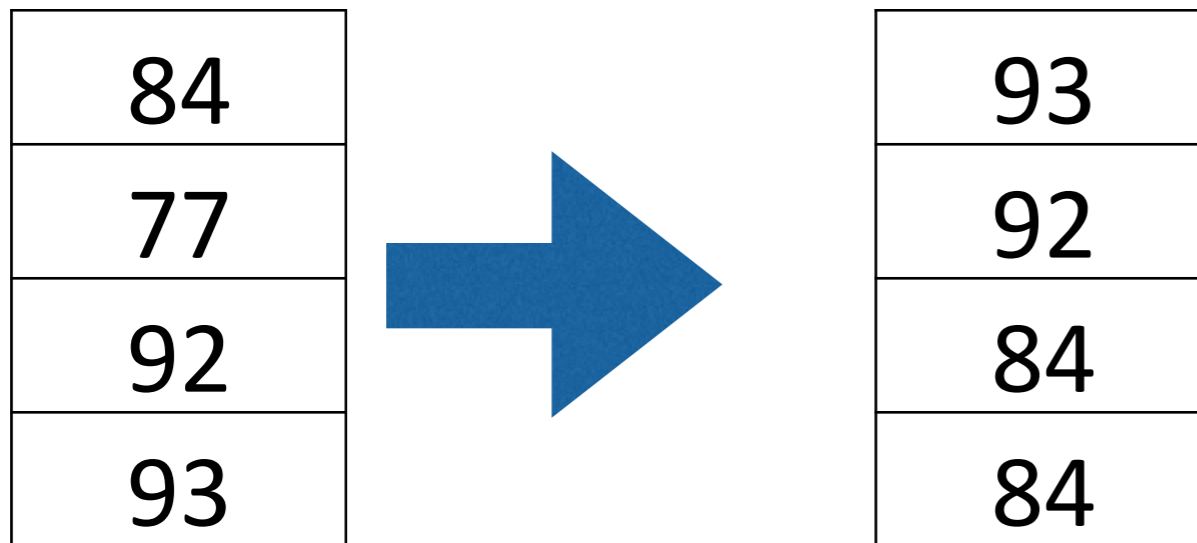
Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)

84
77
92
93

Statistical Analysis

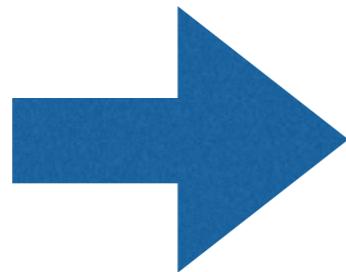
Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)



Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)

84
77
92
93



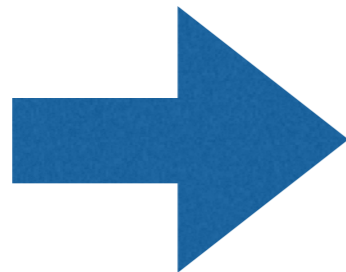
93
92
84
84

84
93
93
92

Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)

84
77
92
93



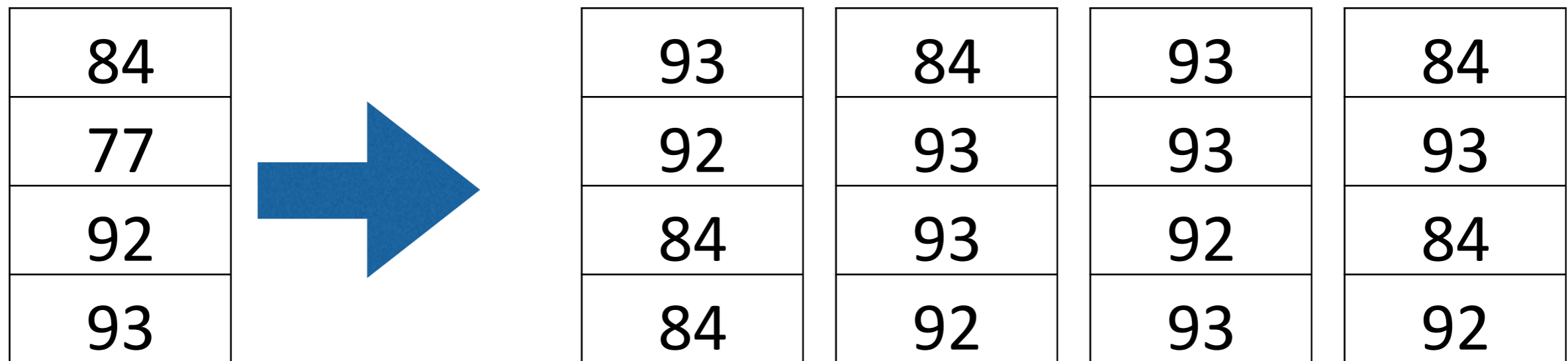
93
92
84
84

84
93
93
92

93
93
92
93

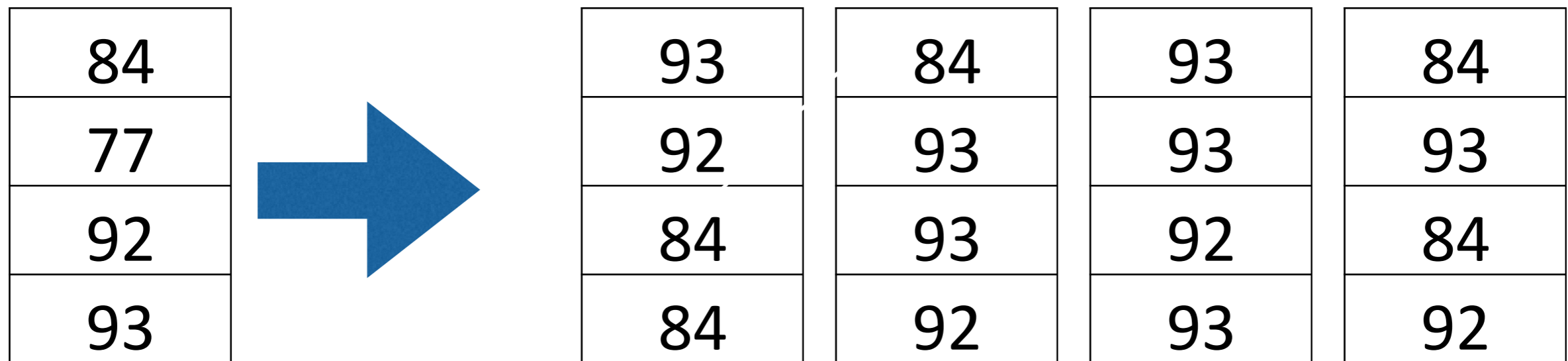
Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)



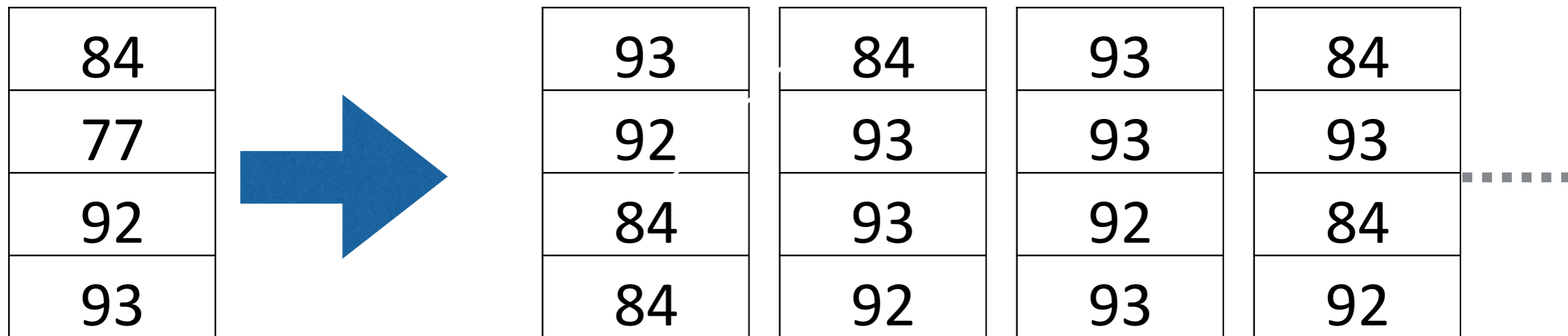
Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)



Statistical Analysis

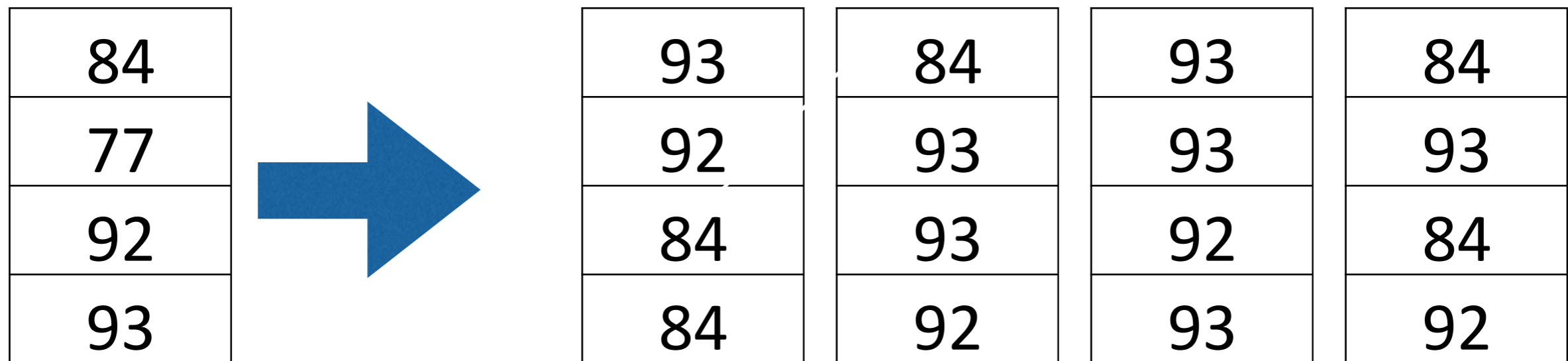
Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)



Can do statistical tests over single sample

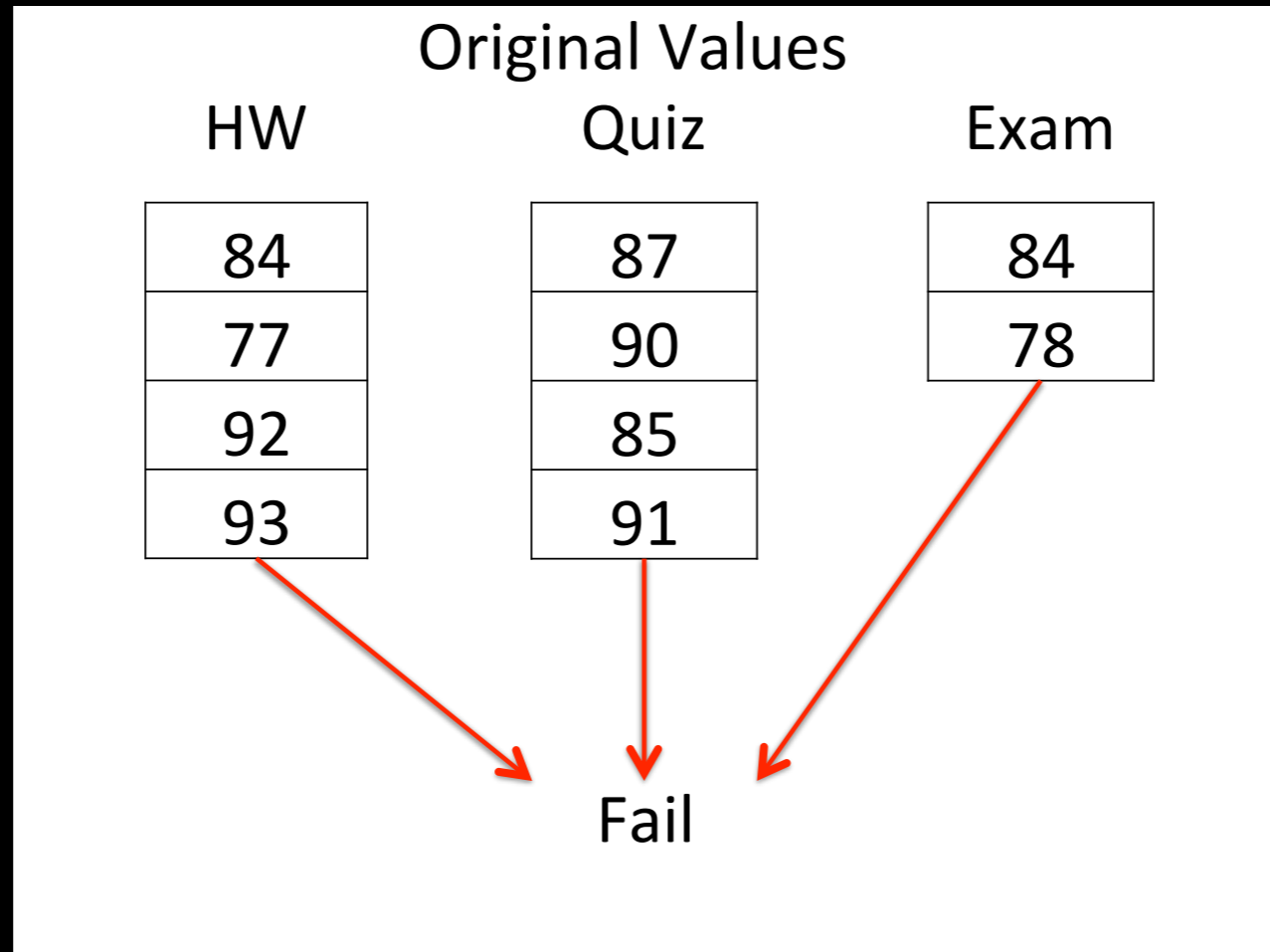
Statistical Analysis

Adaptation of Efron's bootstrap method
(resampling)



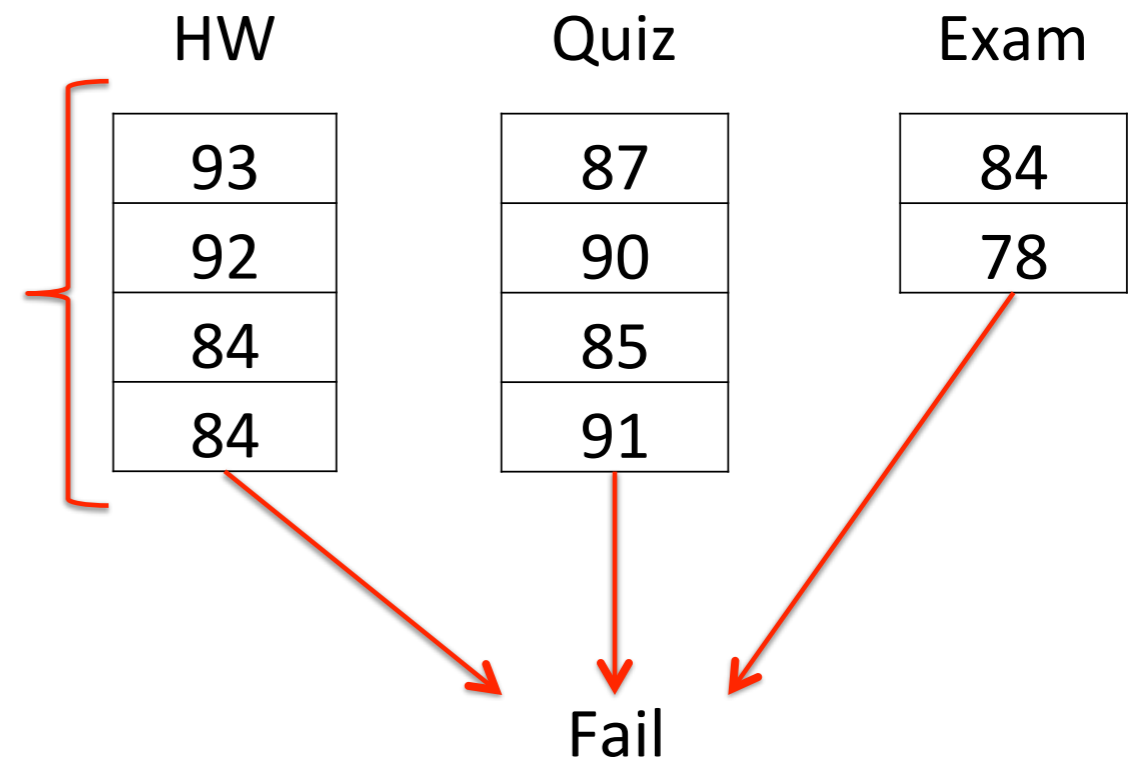
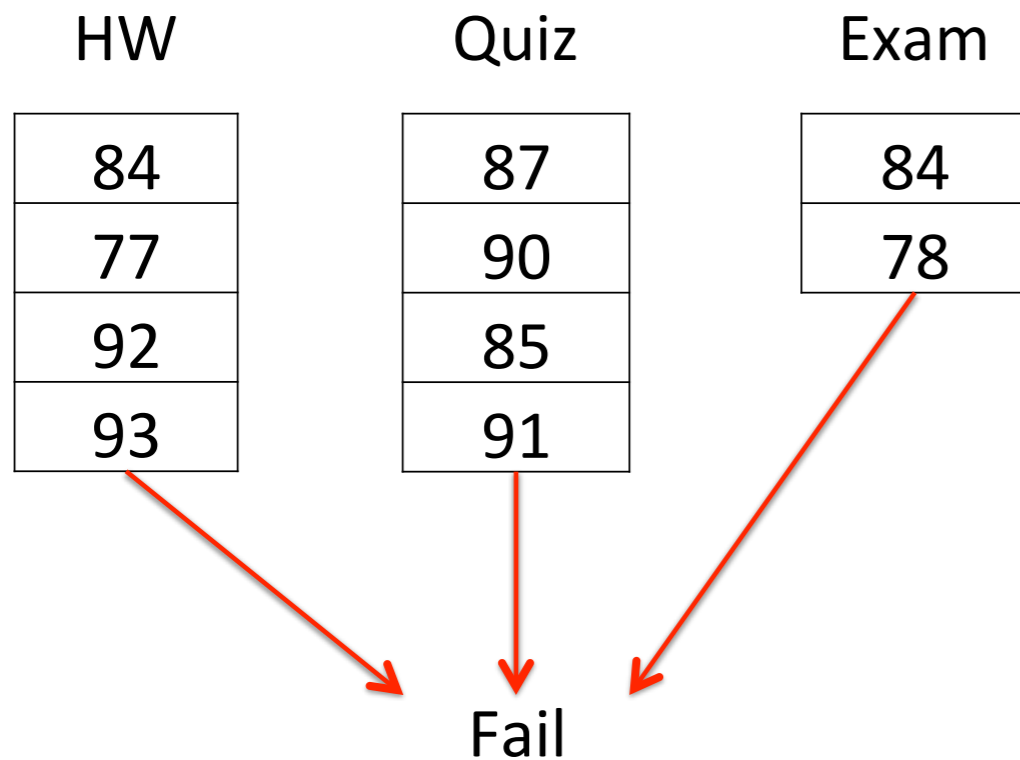
Can do statistical tests over single sample
Extends to non-numerical data

Guided Bootstrap



Guided Bootstrap

Original Values



Guided Bootstrap

Exam

84
78



HW

93
92
84
84



Quiz

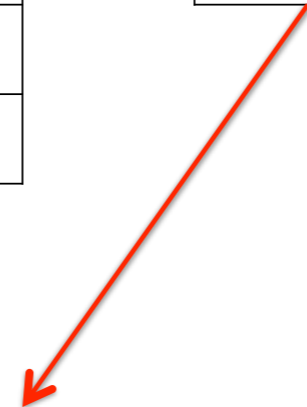
87
90
85
91

Exam

84
78



Fail



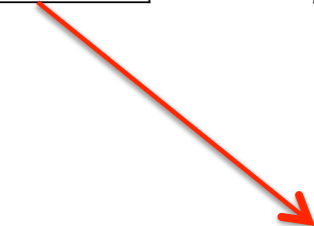
HW

84
93
93
92



Quiz

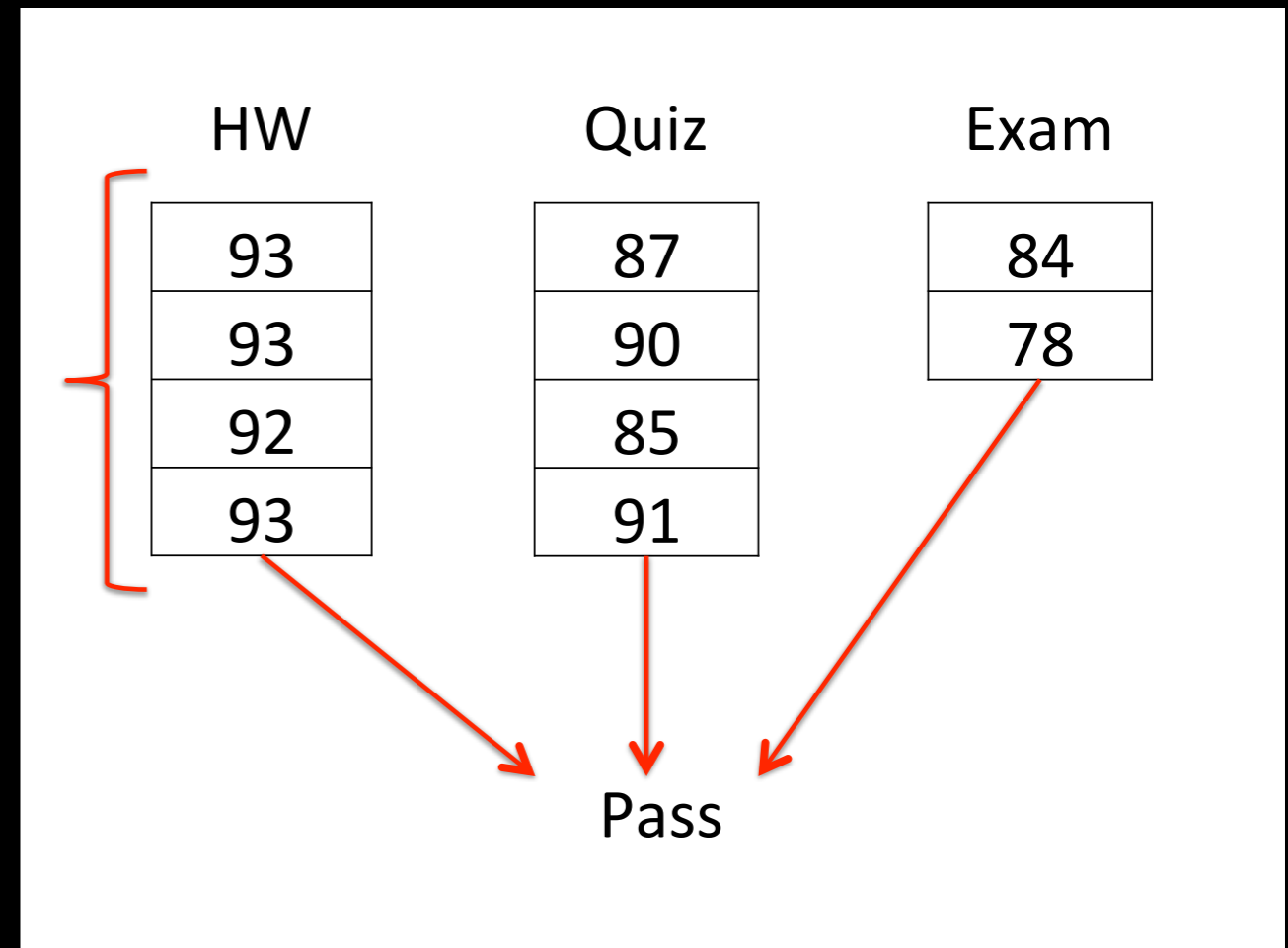
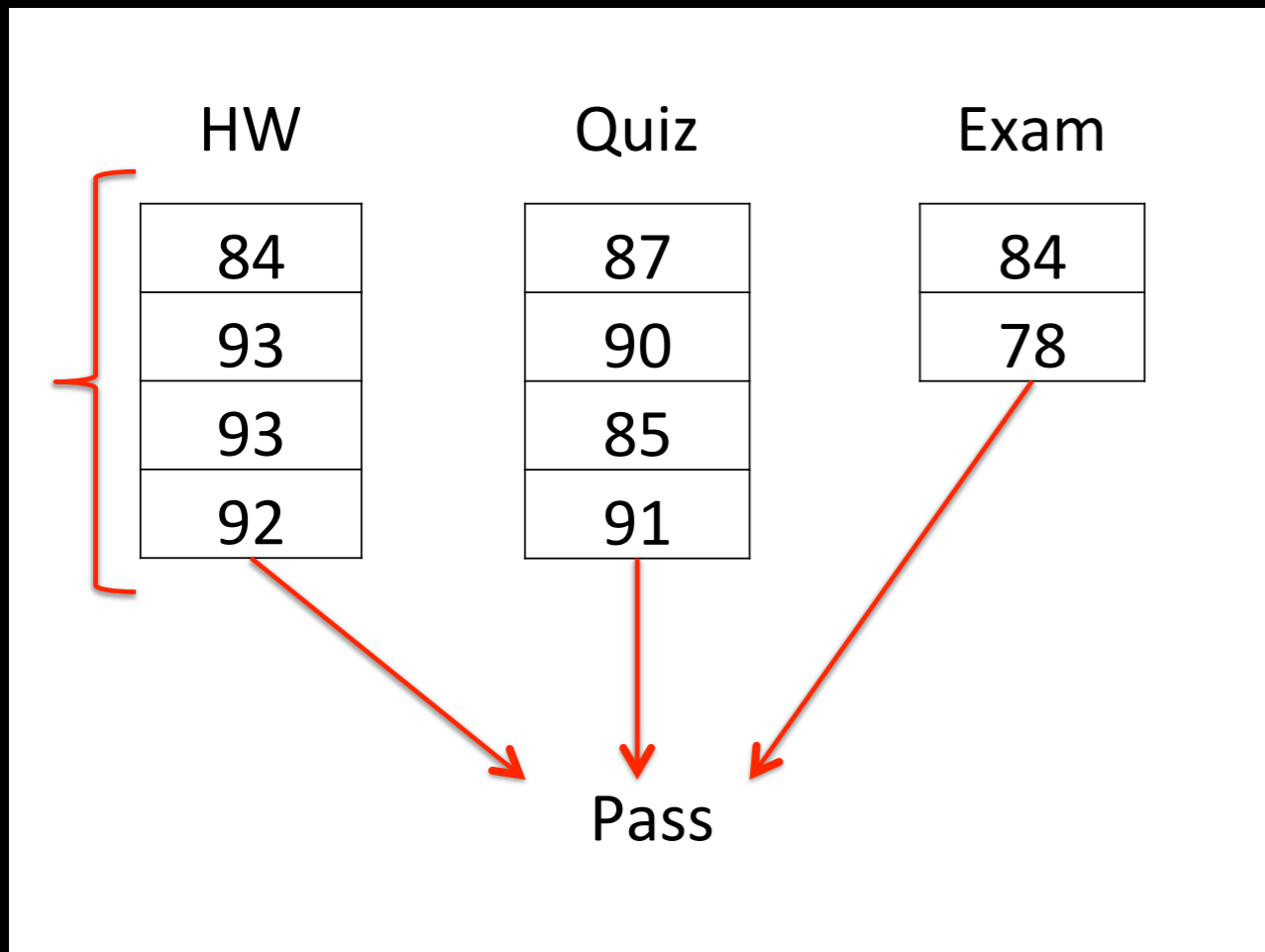
87
90
85
91



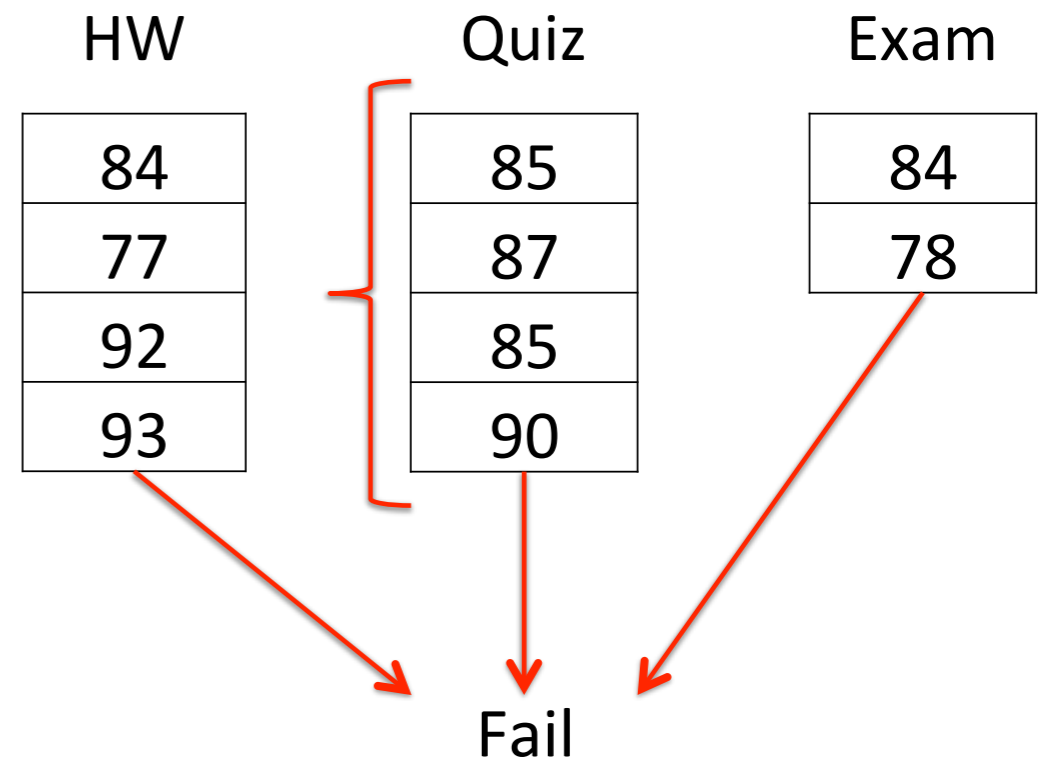
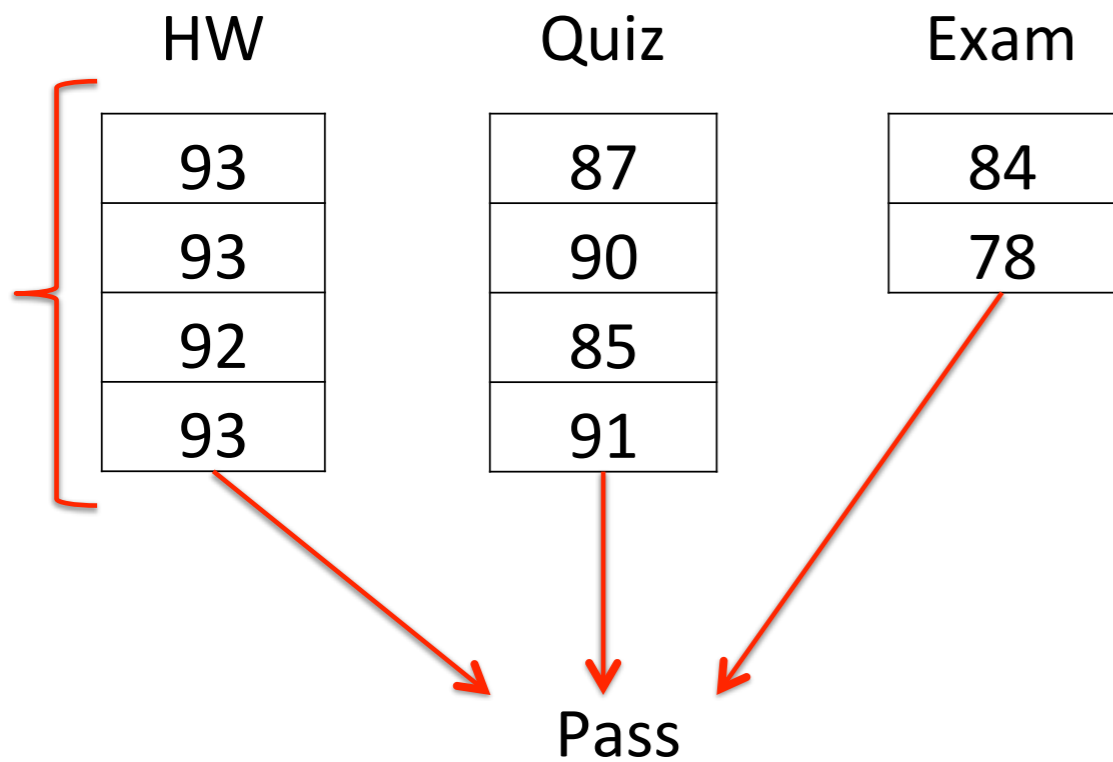
Pass



Guided Bootstrap

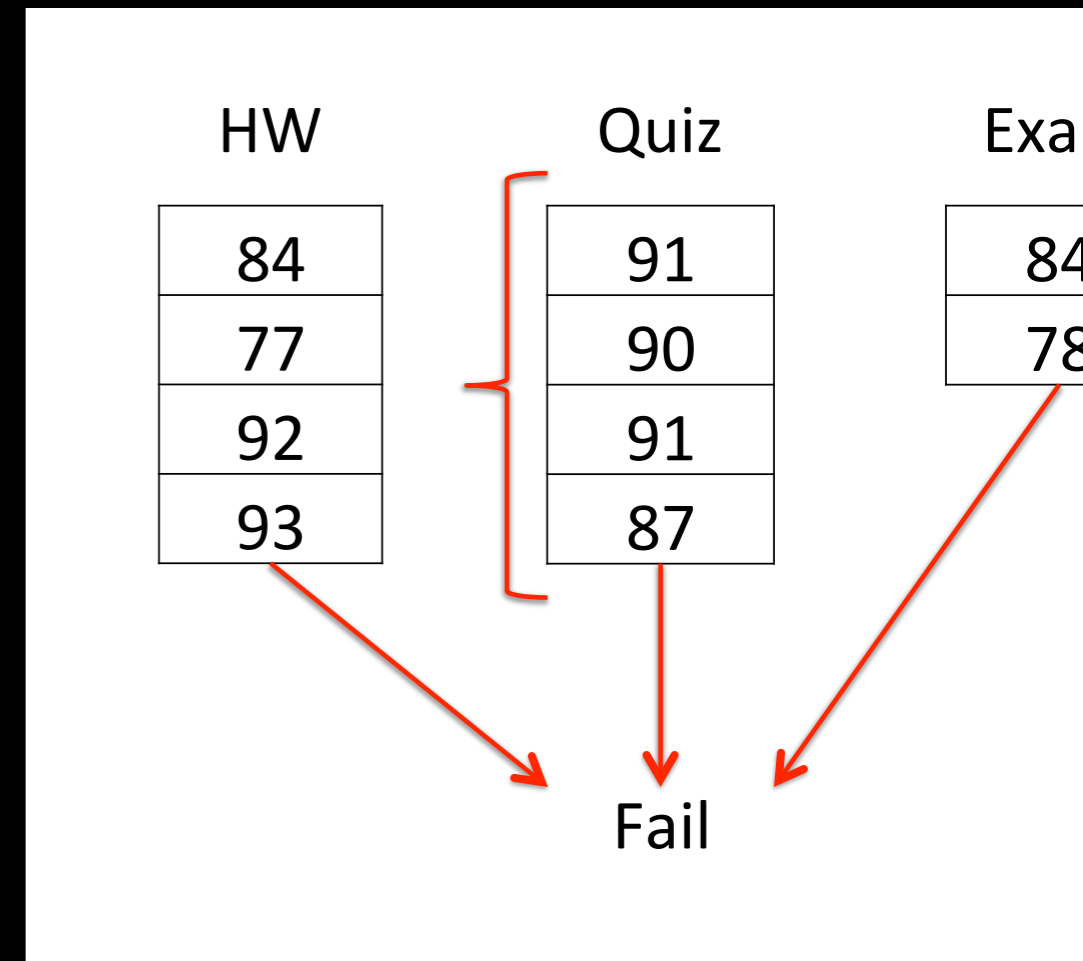
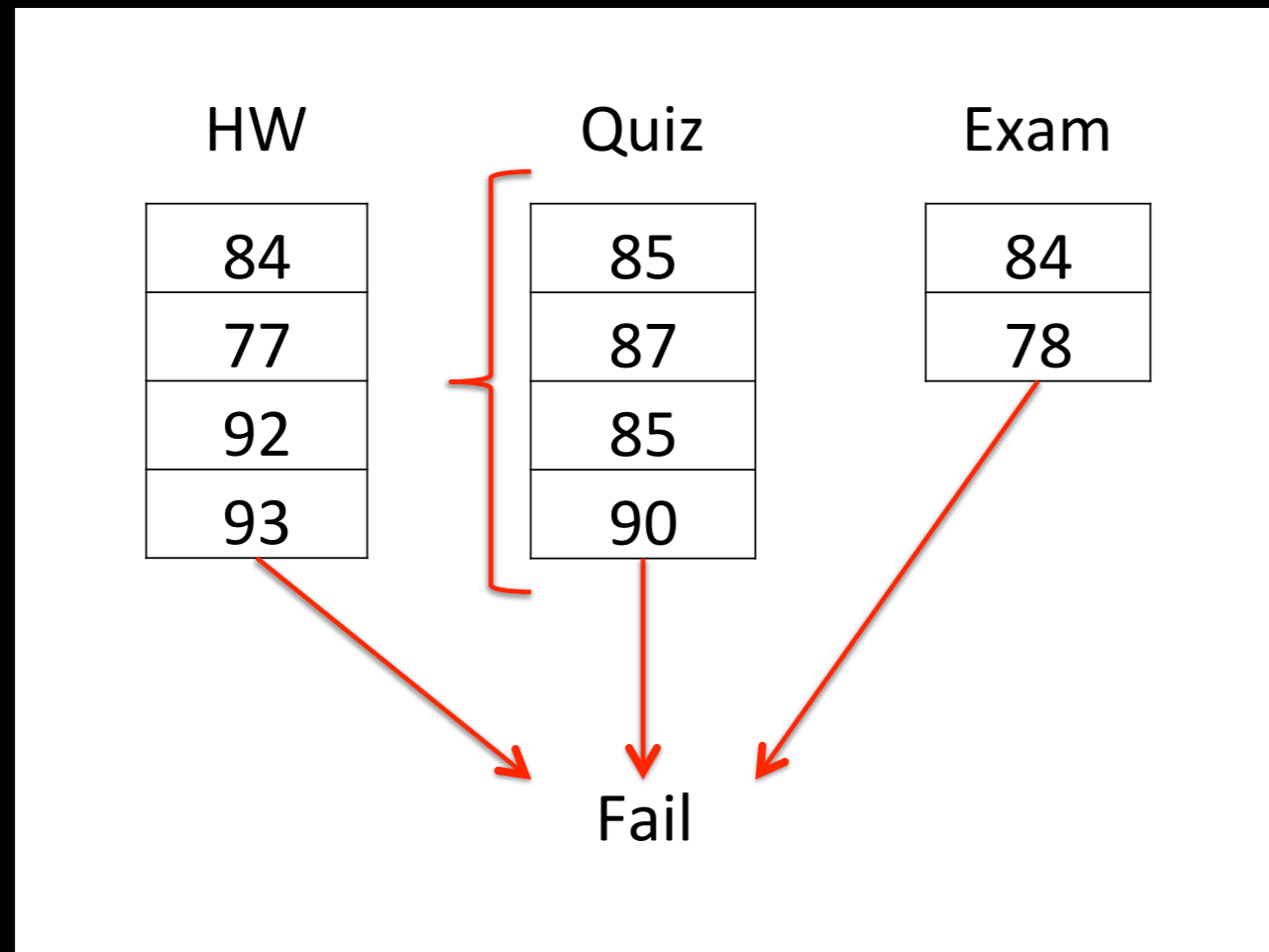


Guided Bootstrap

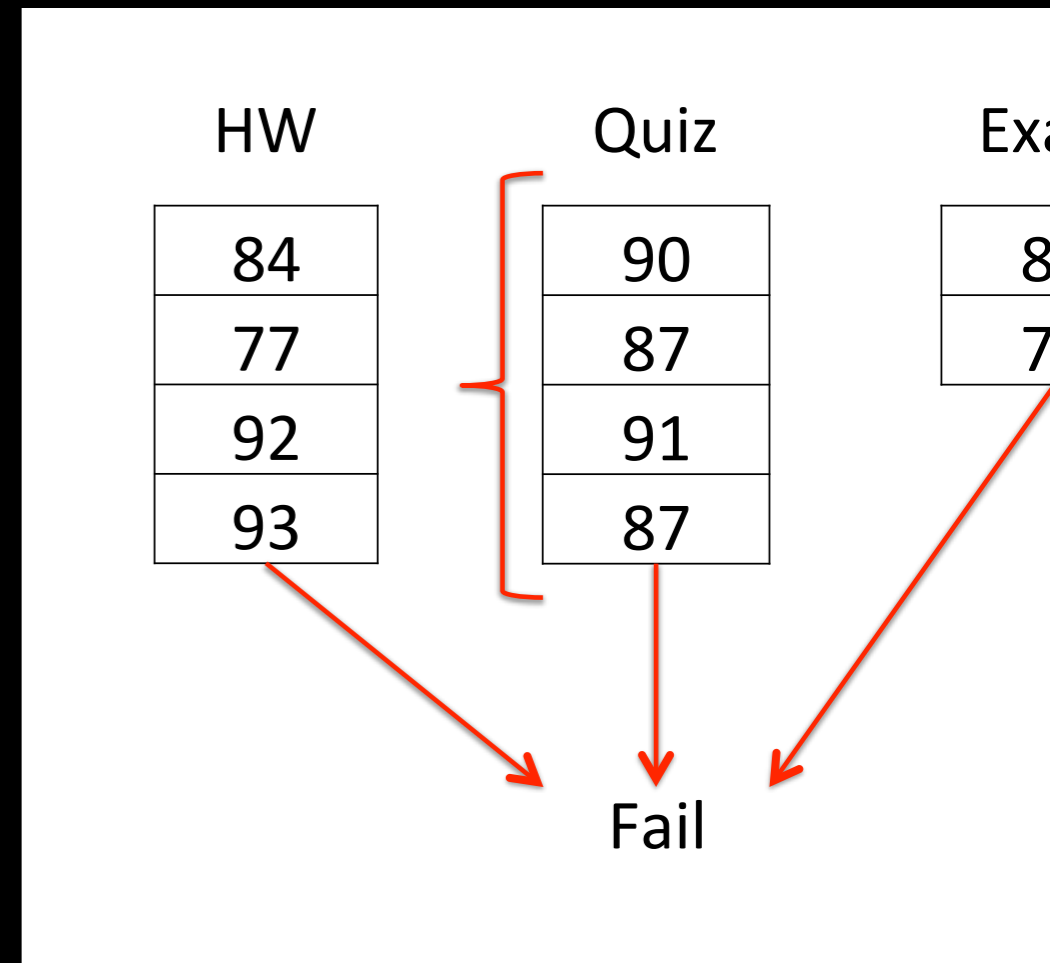
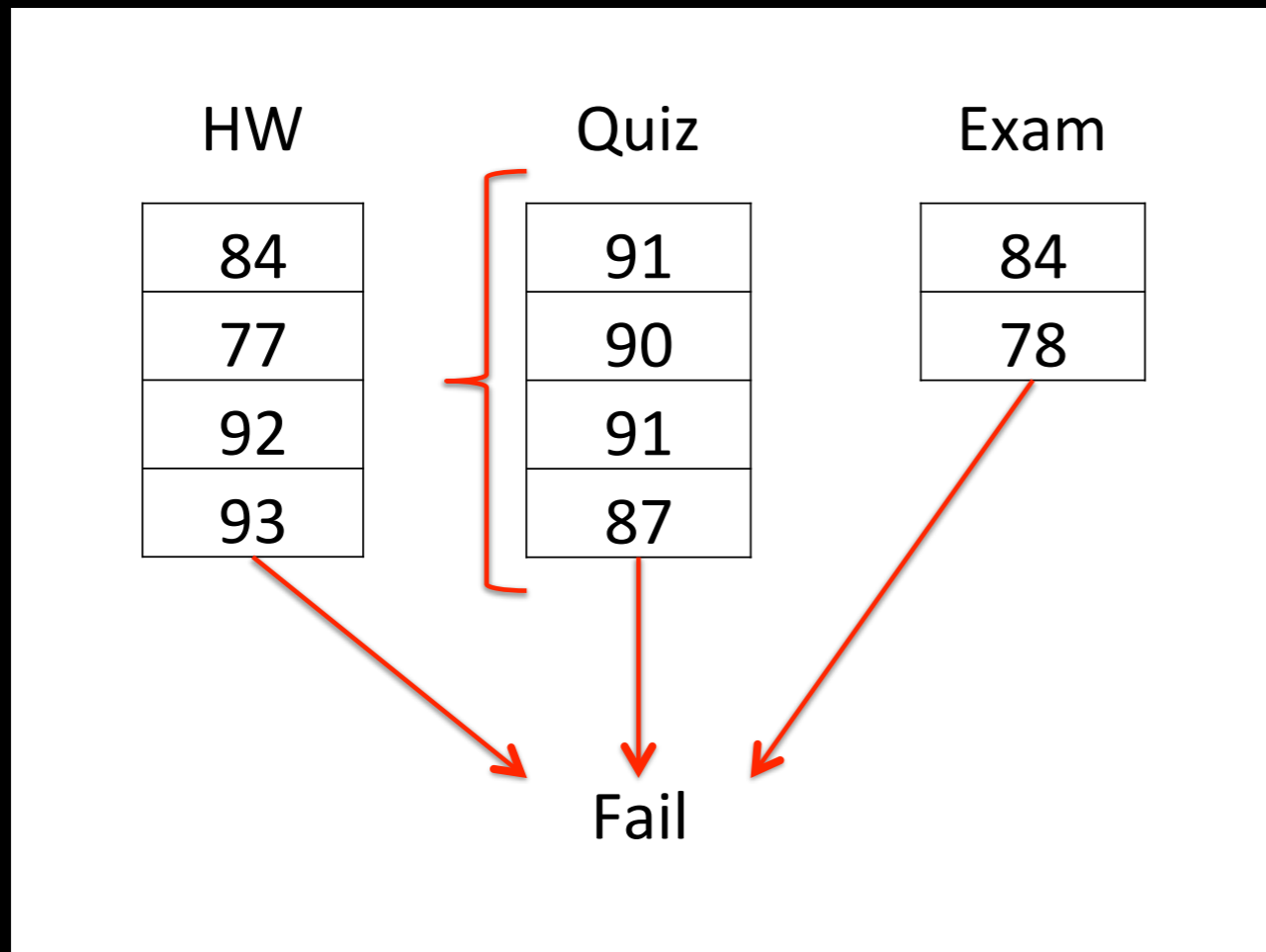
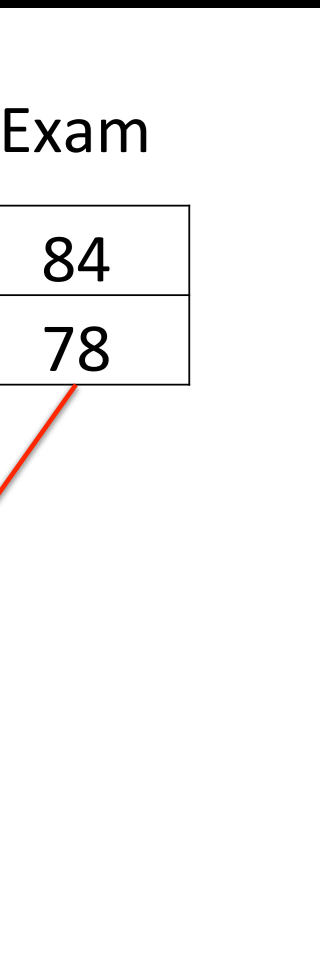


Guided Bootstrap

m



Guided Bootstrap



Guided Bootstrap

Exam

84
78

HW

84
77
92
93

Quiz

90
87
91
87

Exam

84
78

Fail

HW

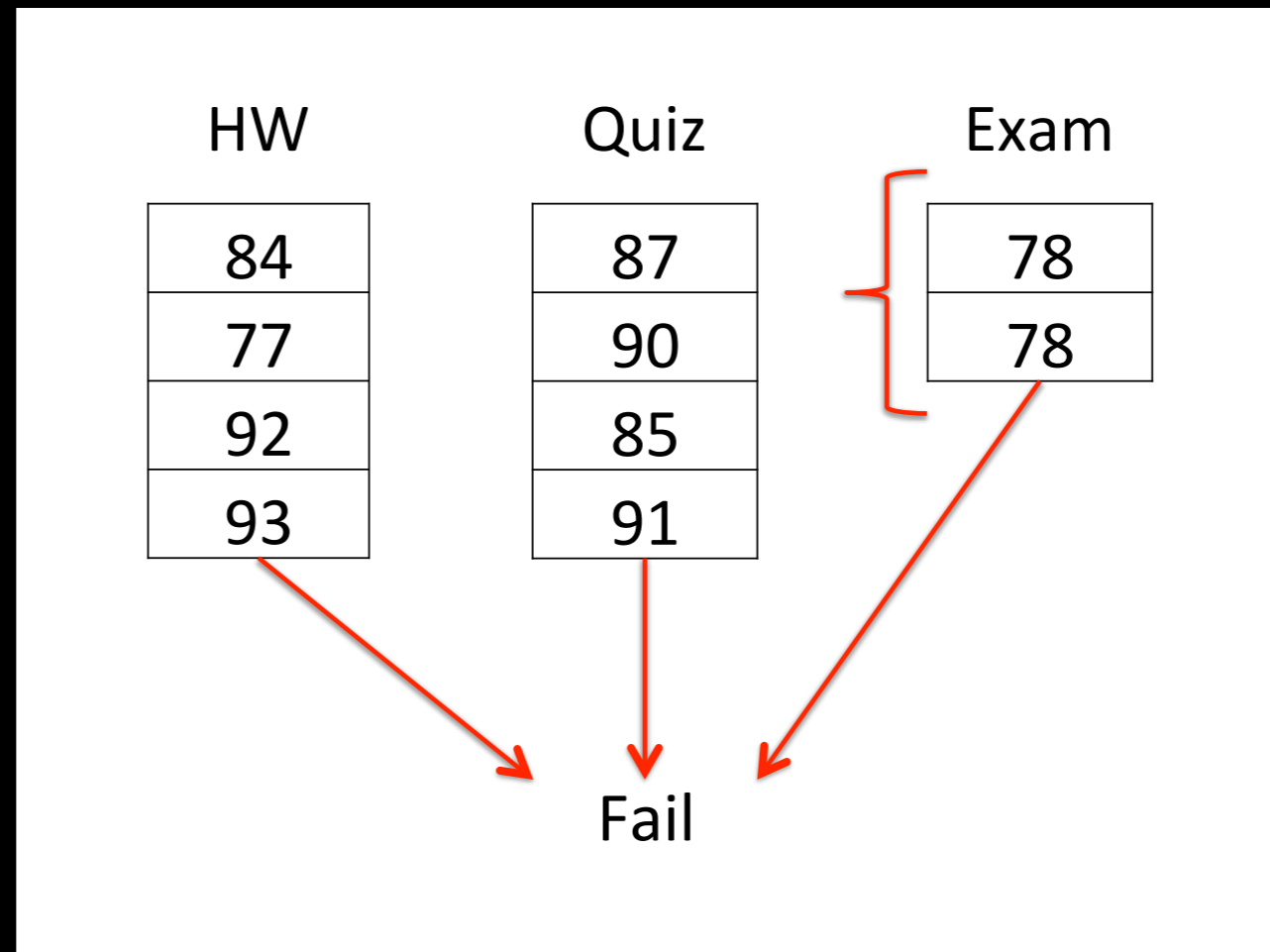
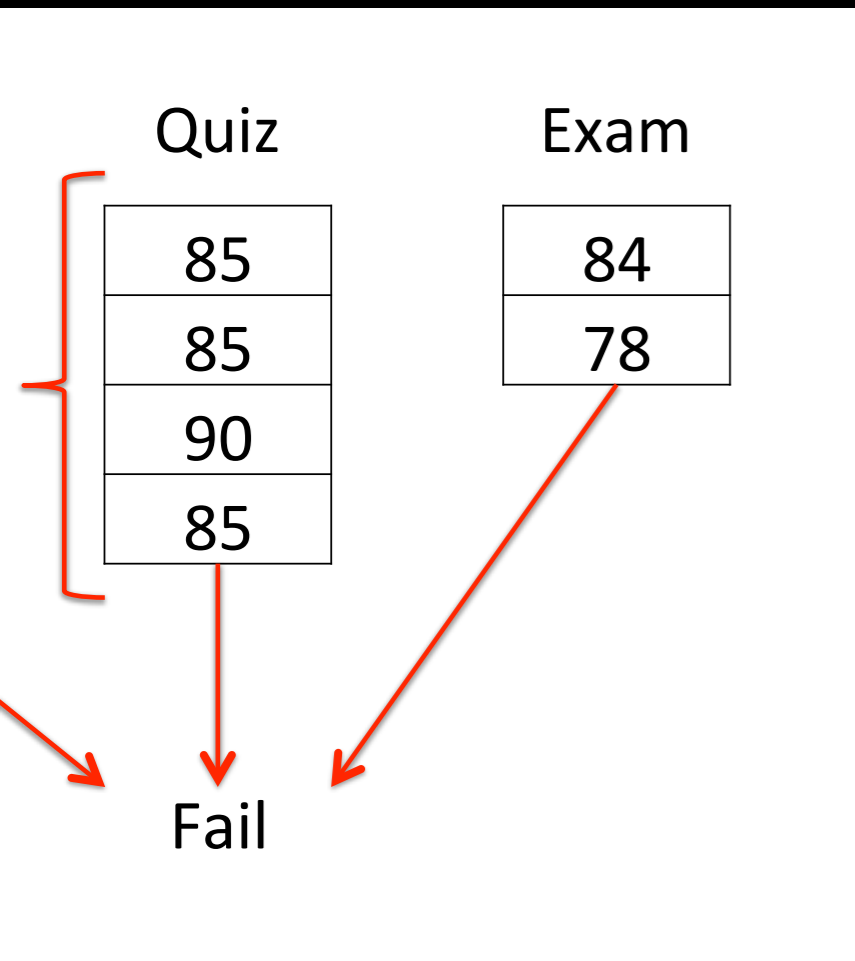
84
77
92
93

Quiz

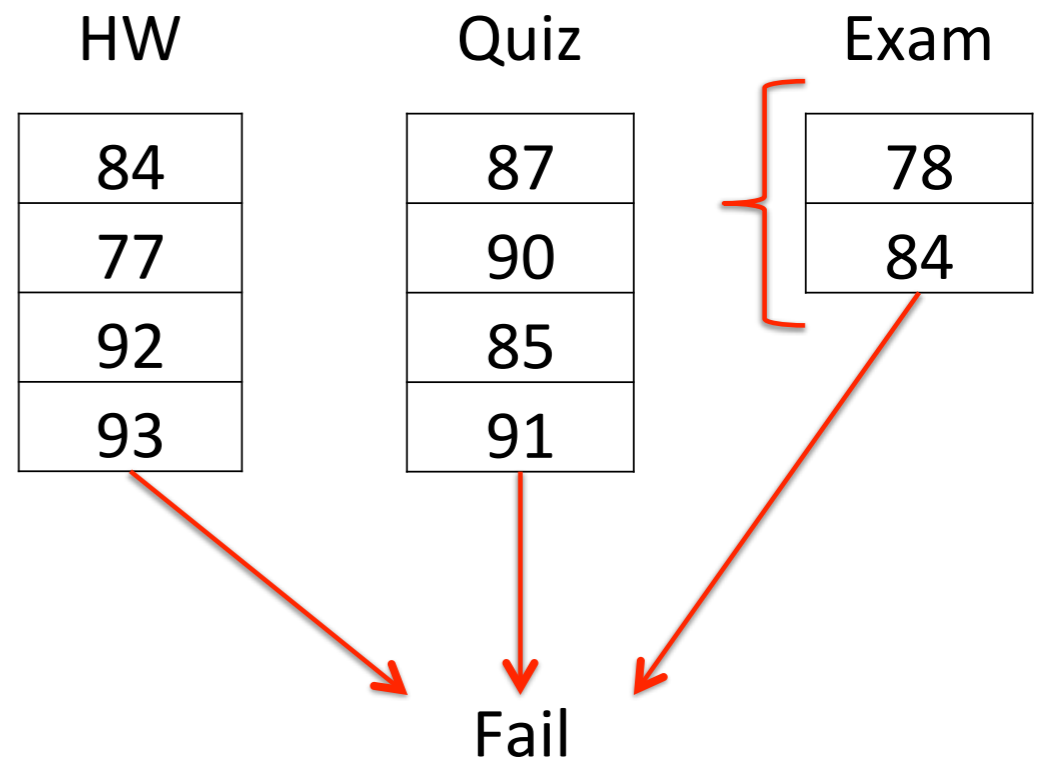
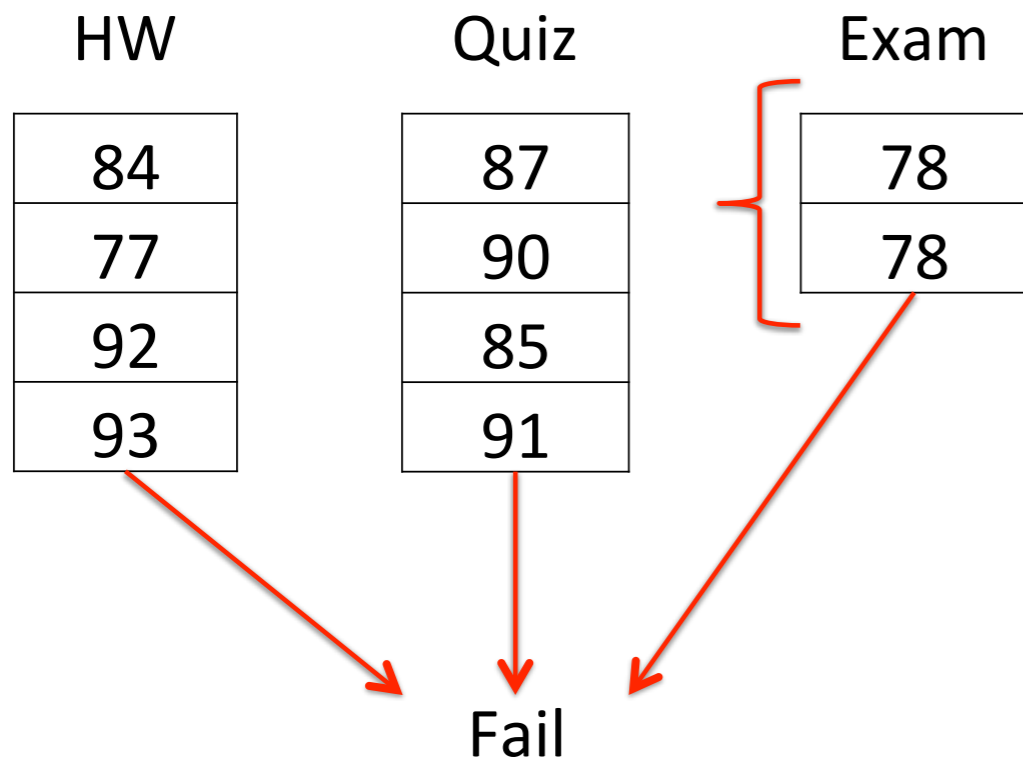
85
85
90
85

Fail

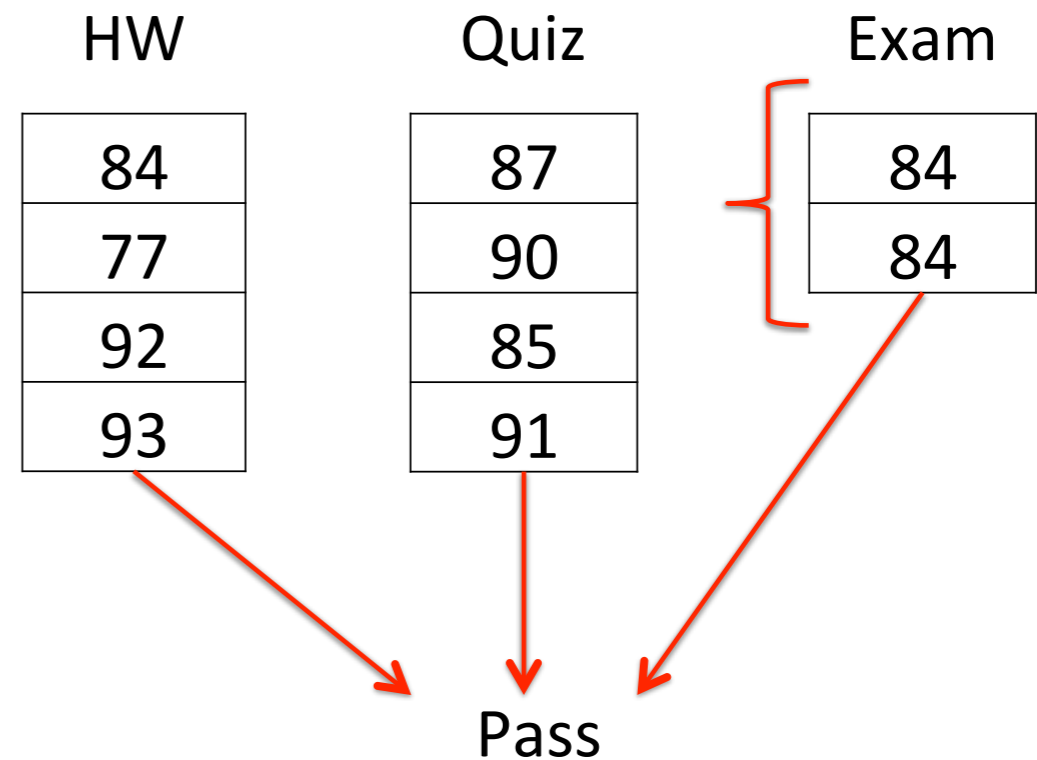
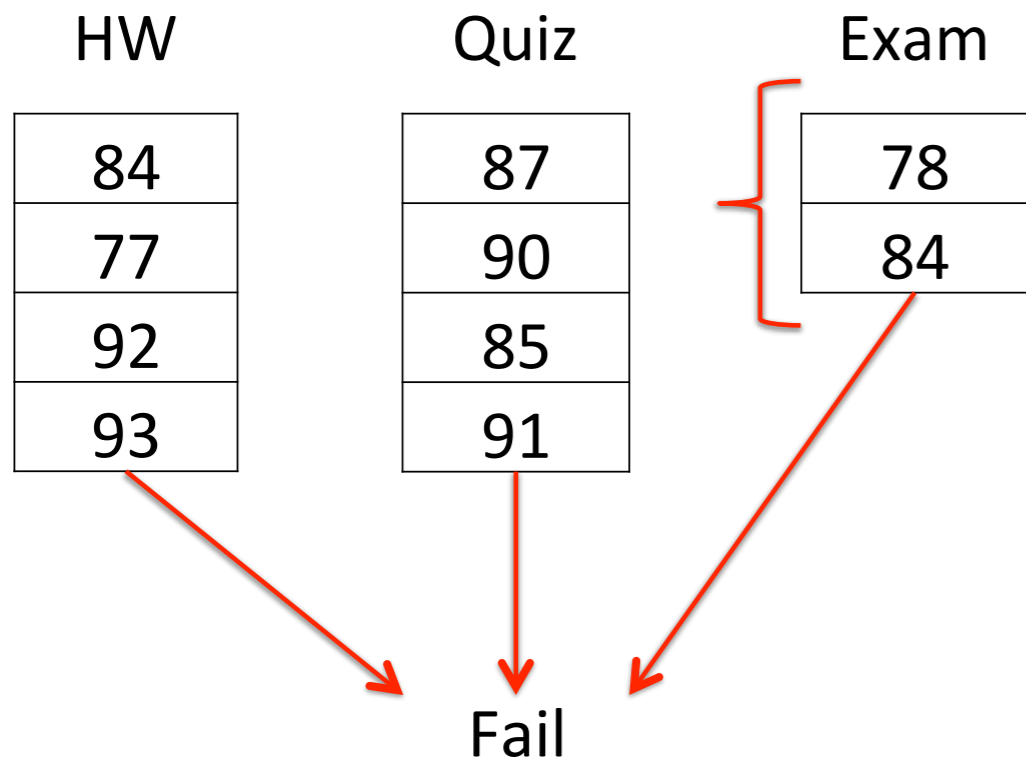
Guided Bootstrap



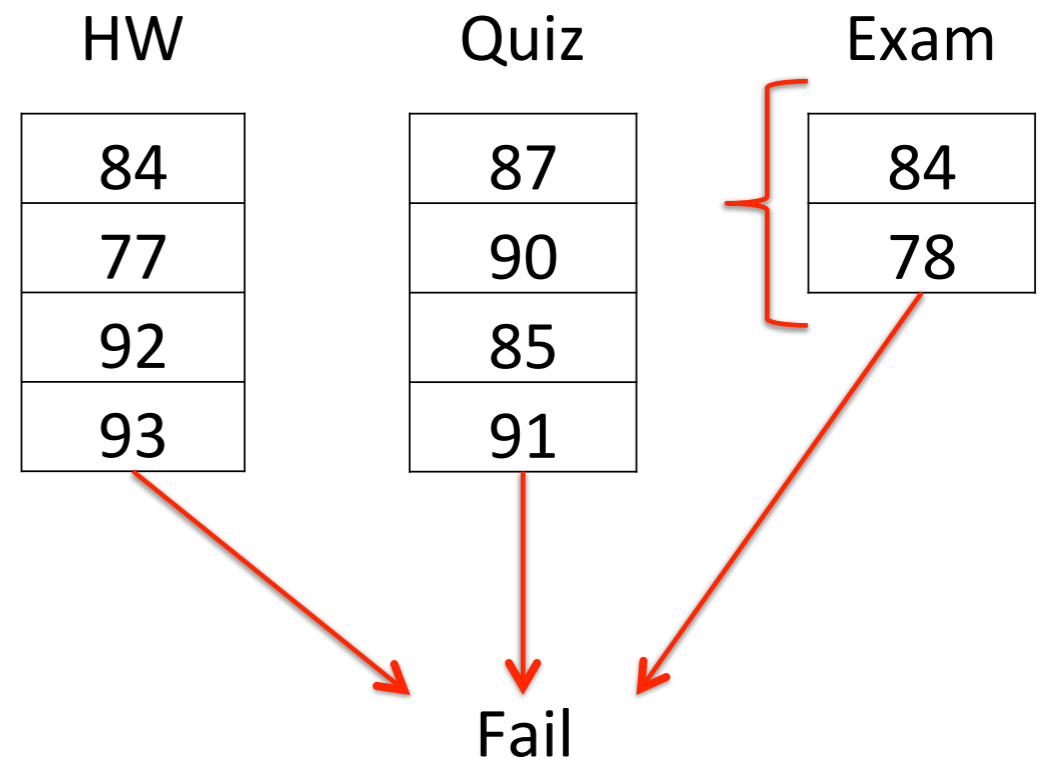
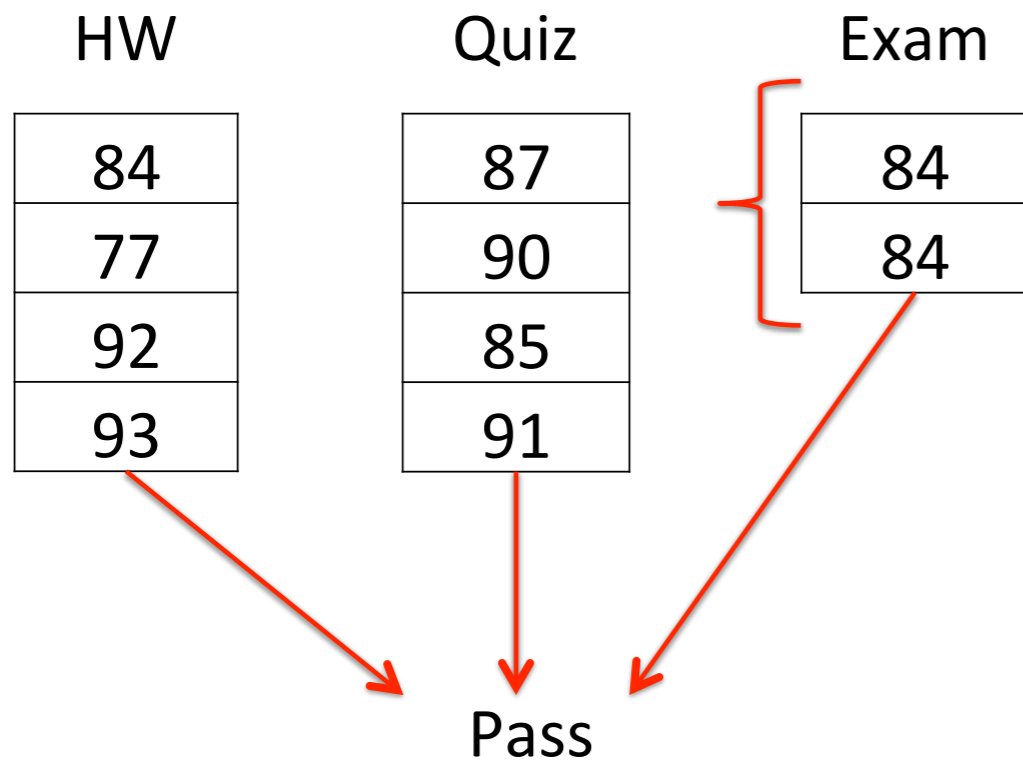
Guided Bootstrap



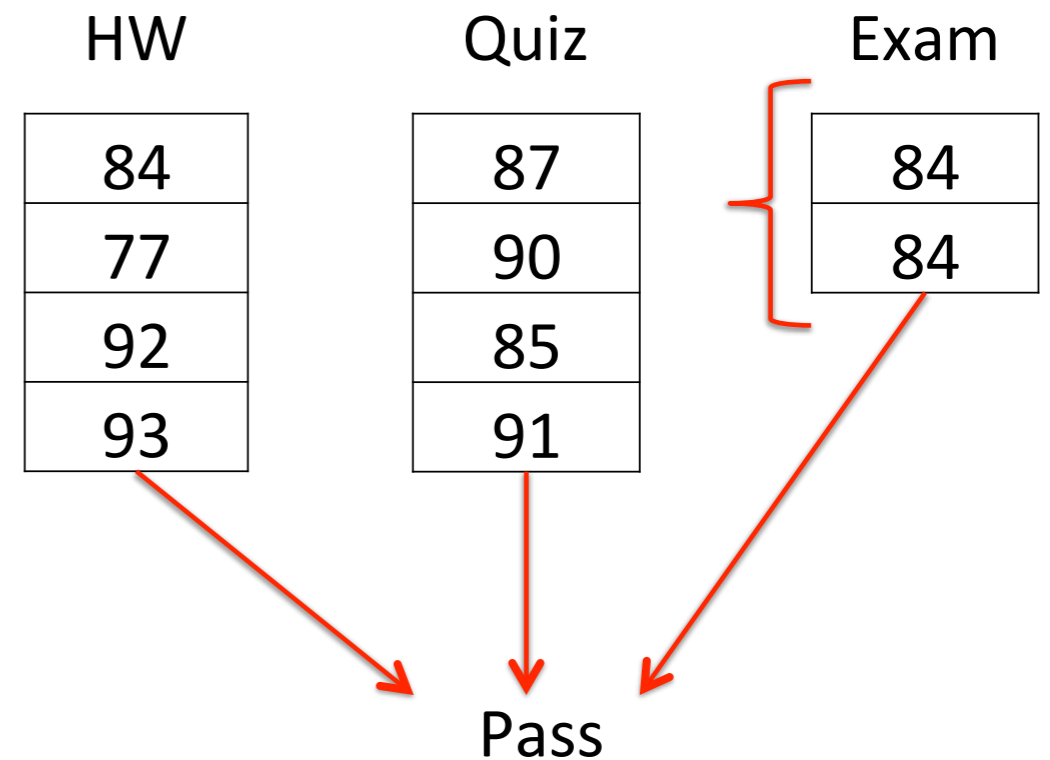
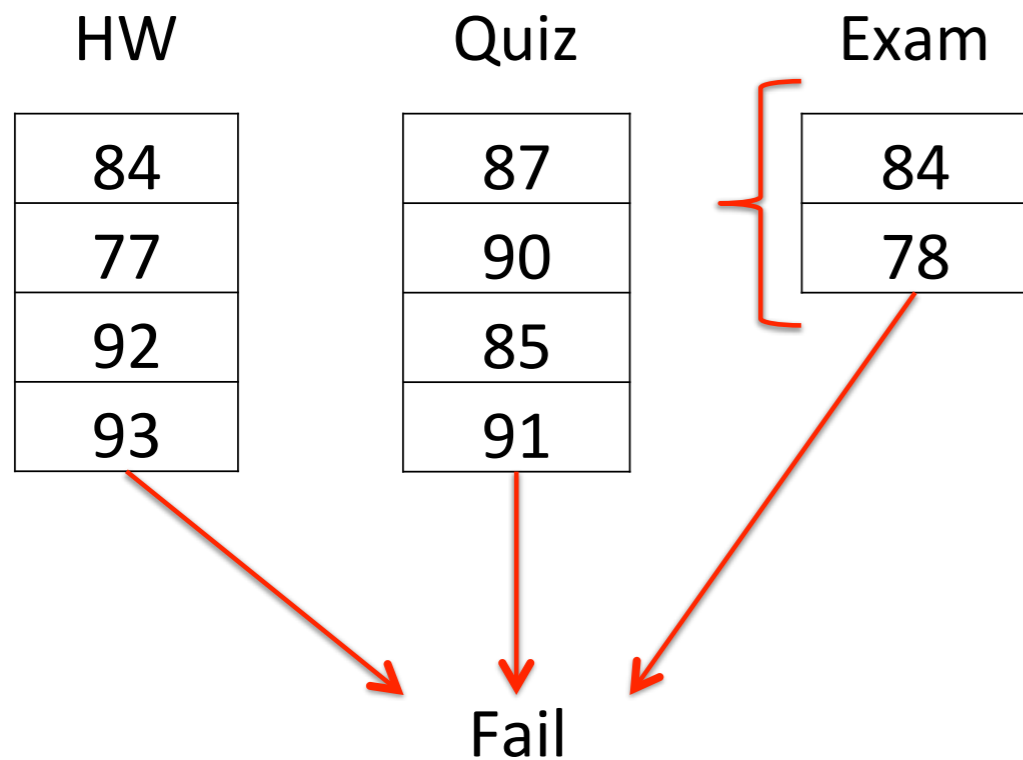
Guided Bootstrap



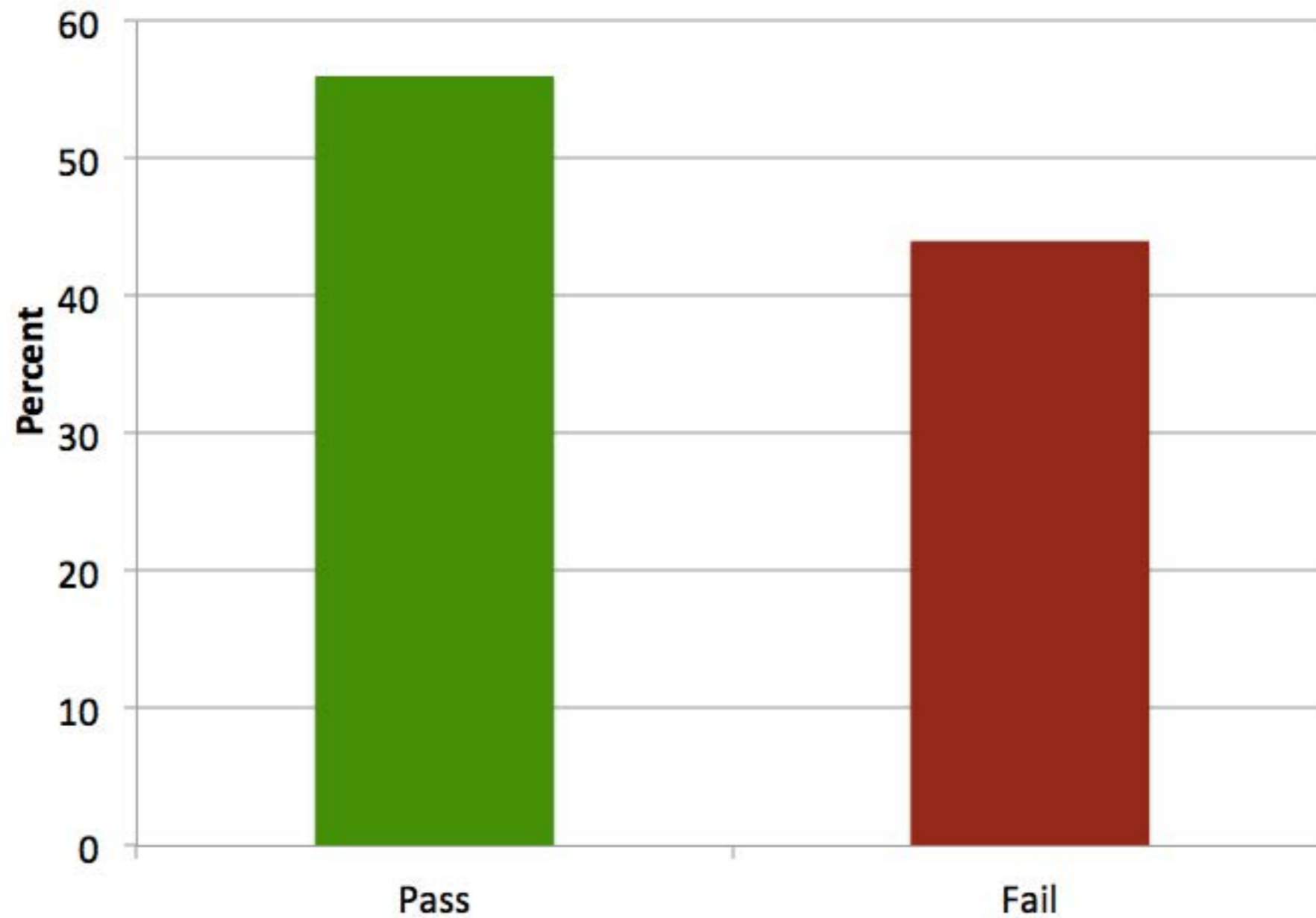
Guided Bootstrap



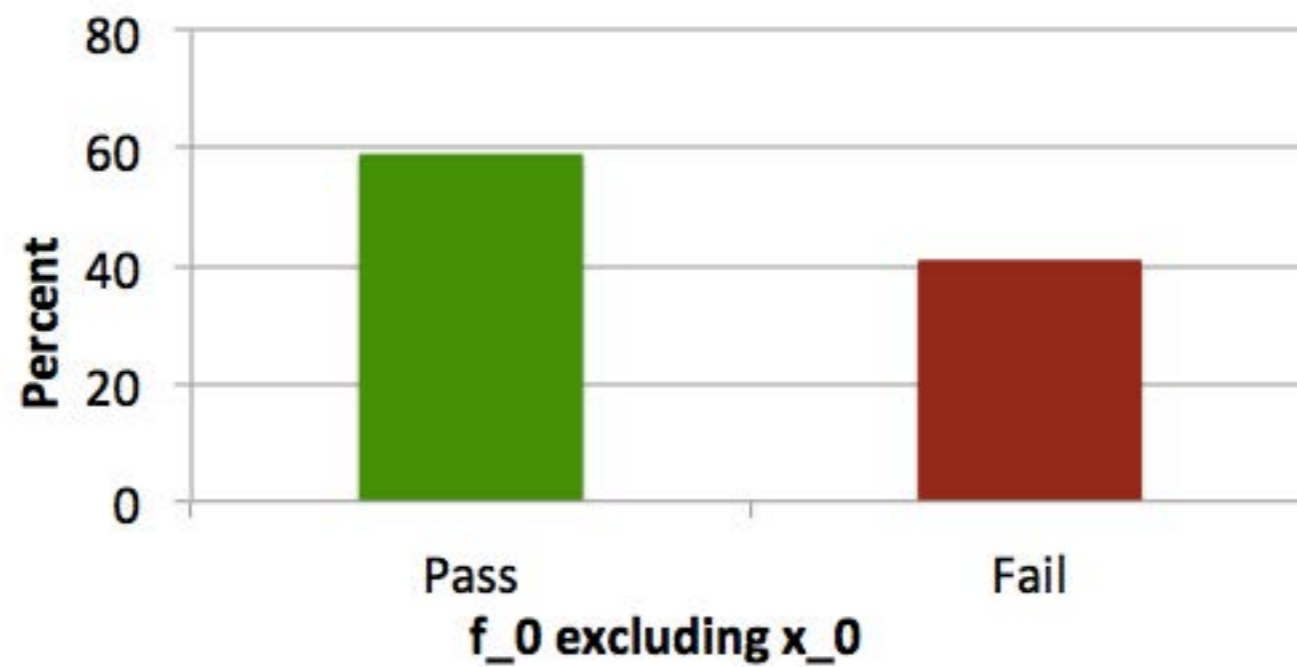
Guided Bootstrap



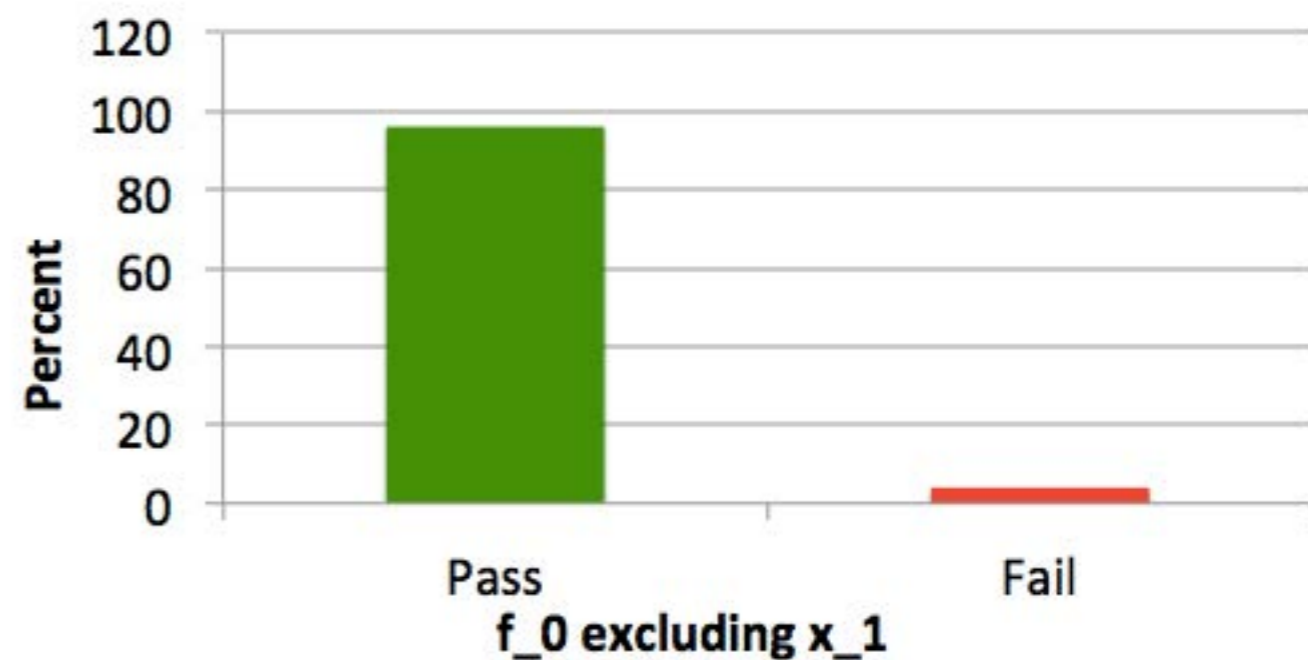
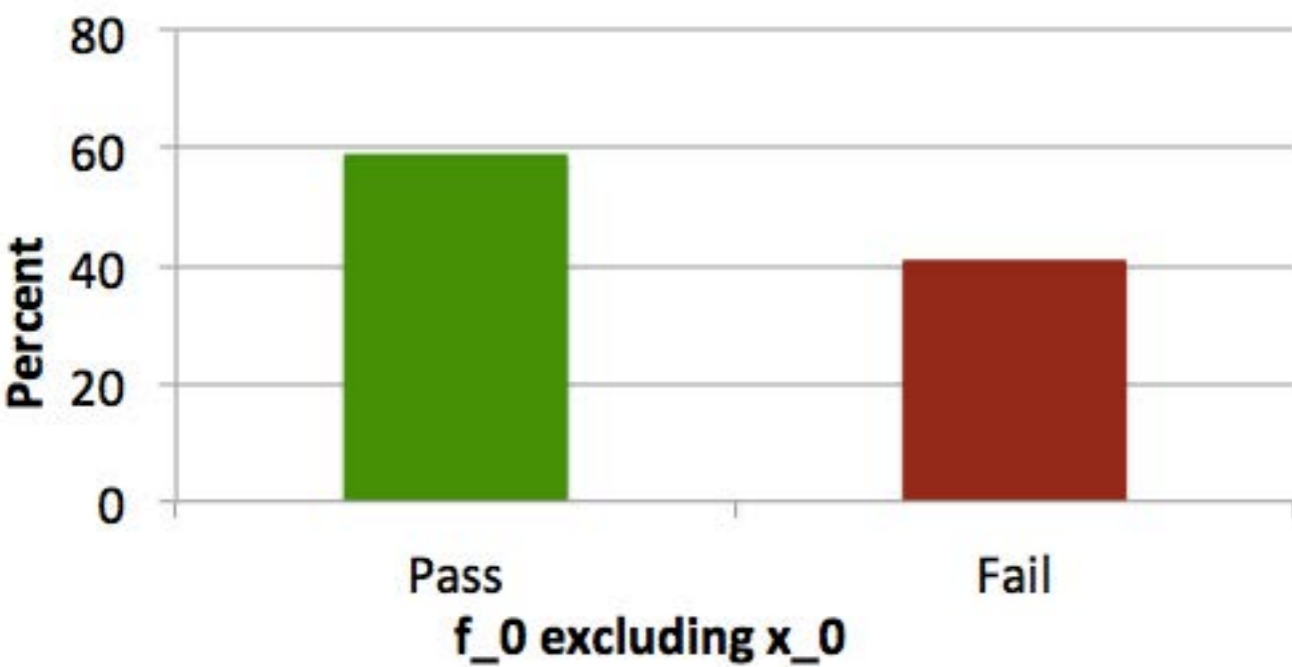
Outputs: Empirical Distribution



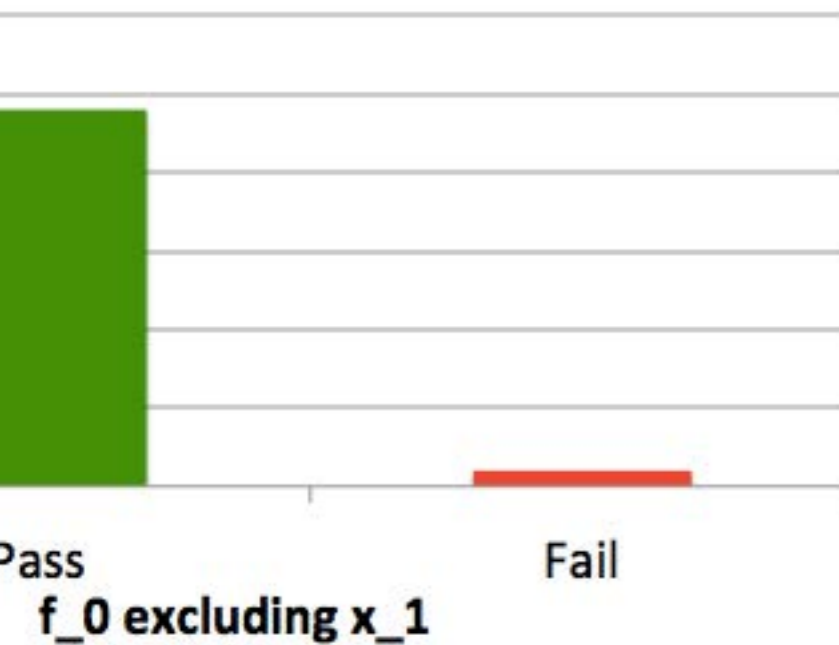
Condition on Presence/ Absence of Values



Condition on Presence/ Absence of Values



Input Unusual in Conditional Distribution?

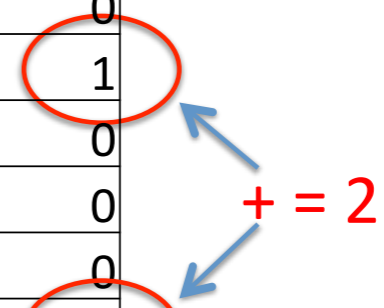


input	score
0	0
1	1
2	0
3	0

Marginalize Over Functions

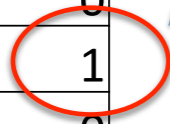
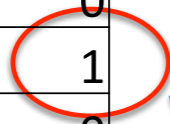
	score
0	0
1	1
2	0
3	0

function	input	score
0	0	0
0	1	1
0	2	0
0	3	0
1	0	0
1	1	1
1	2	0
1	3	0



Rank Results

input	score
0	0
1	1
2	0
3	0
0	0
1	1
2	0
3	0



+ = 2



input	score
1	2
0	0
2	0
3	0



most unusual

Rank Results

ut	score
1	2
0	0
2	0
3	0



most unusual

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with a table of grades. The table has columns for Assignment, Grade, Homework, and percentage. The 'Exam 2' row is highlighted in red, and the value '78' is highlighted in a red box. The spreadsheet interface includes the ribbon (File, Home, Insert, Page Layout, Formulas, Data) and the 'CheckCell' dialog box.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Assignment	Grade		Homework	20%	
2	HW 1	84		Quizzes	30%	
3	HW 2	77		Exams	50%	
4	HW 3	92				
5	HW 4	93		Final grade	84.275	
6	Quiz 1	87		Pass/Fail	Fail	
7	Quiz 2	90				
8	Quiz 3	85				
9	Quiz 4	91				
10	Exam 1	84				
11	Exam 2	78				
12						

Empirical Evaluation

Challenges

Where do we find buggy spreadsheets?

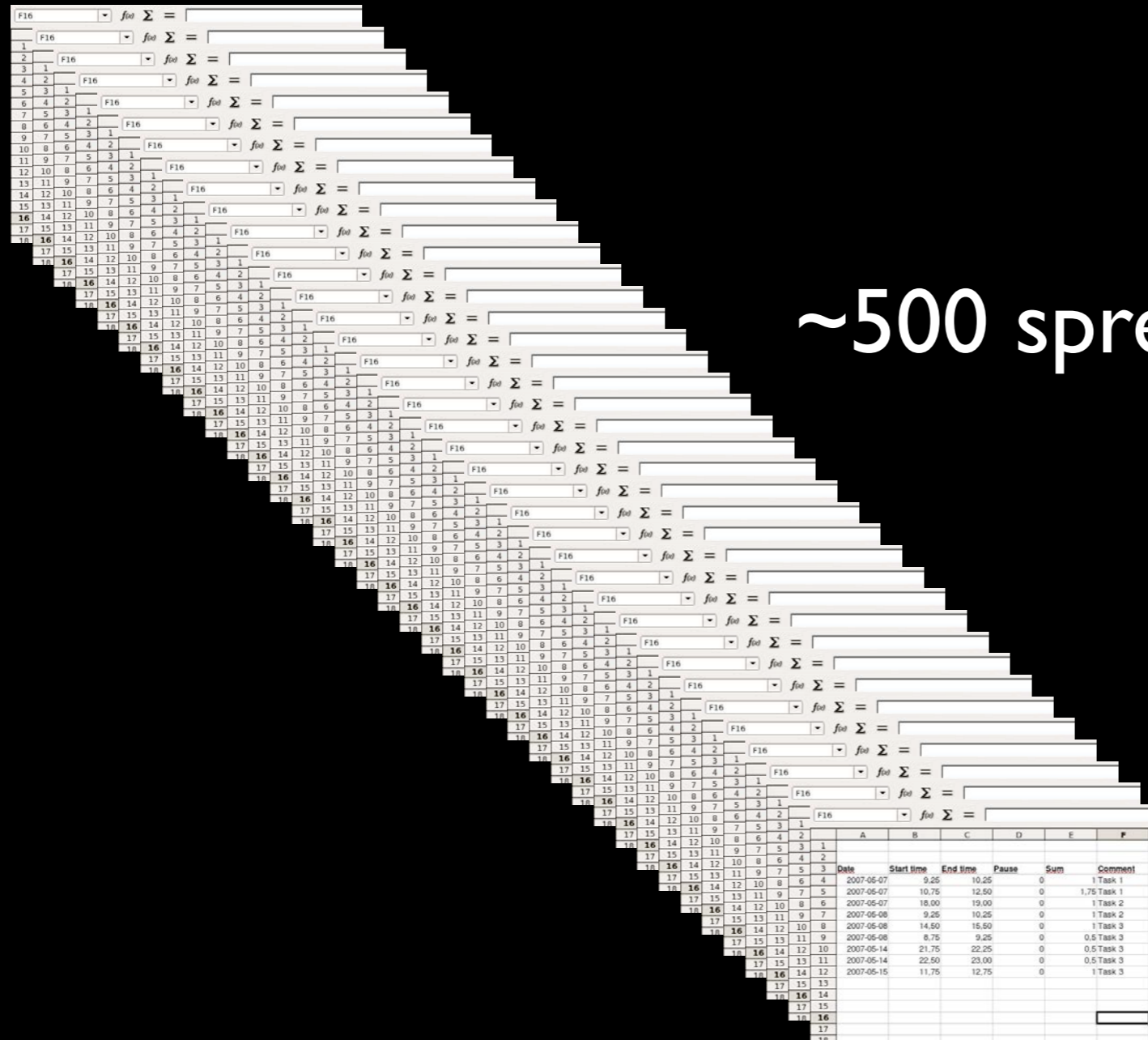
Challenges

Where do we find buggy spreadsheets?

How do we know what's **correct**?

Experimental Methodology

Experimental Methodology

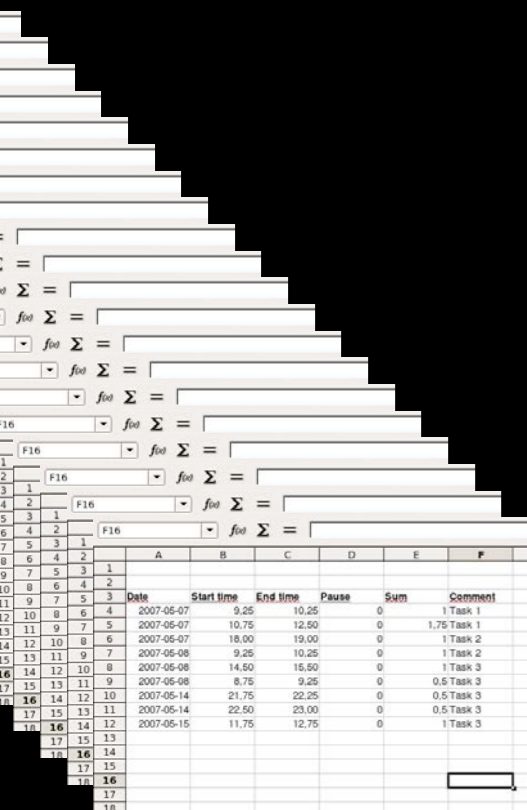


~500 spreadsheets (EUSES)

Date	Start time	End time	Pause	Sum	Comment
2007-05-07	9.25	10.25	0	0	1 Task 1
2007-05-07	10.75	12.50	0	1.75	Task 1
2007-05-07	18.00	19.00	0	0	1 Task 2
2007-05-08	9.25	10.25	0	0	1 Task 2
2007-05-08	14.50	15.50	0	0	1 Task 3
2007-05-08	8.75	9.25	0	0	0.5 Task 3
2007-05-14	21.75	22.25	0	0	0.5 Task 3
2007-05-14	22.50	23.00	0	0	0.5 Task 3
2007-05-15	11.75	12.75	0	0	1 Task 3

Experimental Methodology

~500 spreadsheets (EUSES)



~ 900 Mechanical Turk workers
retype data (presented as images)

Experimental Methodology



~ 900 Mechanical Turk workers retype data (presented as images)

D	E	F
Sum	Comment	
0	1 Task 1	
0	1.75 Task 1	
0	1 Task 2	
0	1 Task 2	
0	1 Task 3	
0	0.5 Task 3	
0	0.5 Task 3	
0	0.5 Task 3	
0	1 Task 3	

Fill in this spreadsheet

- Copy the values from the image on the left to the grid on the right.
- The first row shows how you should do this job.
- Remove quotes from strings whenever you encounter them. E.g., "Doe, John" should be entered as Doe, John.

39,10/31/2007,10505,"Doe, John",8.80	39	10/31/2007	10505	Doe, John	8.80
2779,5799,5726,1152,4132	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
6641,840,3643,137,198	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



Experimental Methodology

~ 900 Mechanical Turk workers
retype data (presented as images)

Fill in this spreadsheet

he left to the grid on the right.
do this job.
er you encounter them. E.g., "Doe, John" should be entered as Doe, John.

9	10/31/2007	10505	Doe, John	8.80



Generative model
of typographical errors

Experimental Methodology



Generative model
of typographical errors



Injected into ~70 randomly-chosen
spreadsheets (5% error rate)

Experimental Methodology



Generative model
of typographical errors



Injected into ~70 randomly-chosen
spreadsheets (5% error rate)



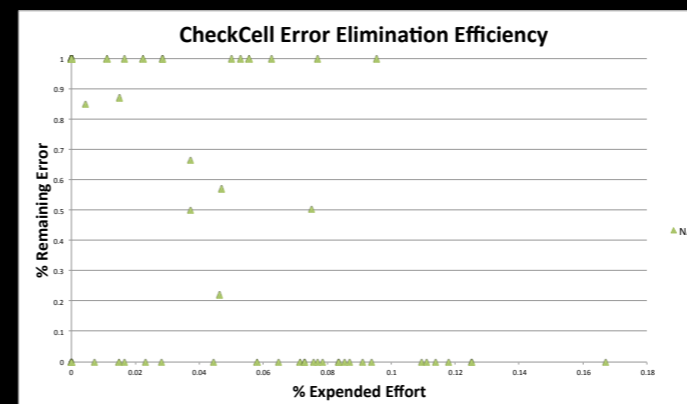
Originals = oracle (“correct”)

Experimental Methodology

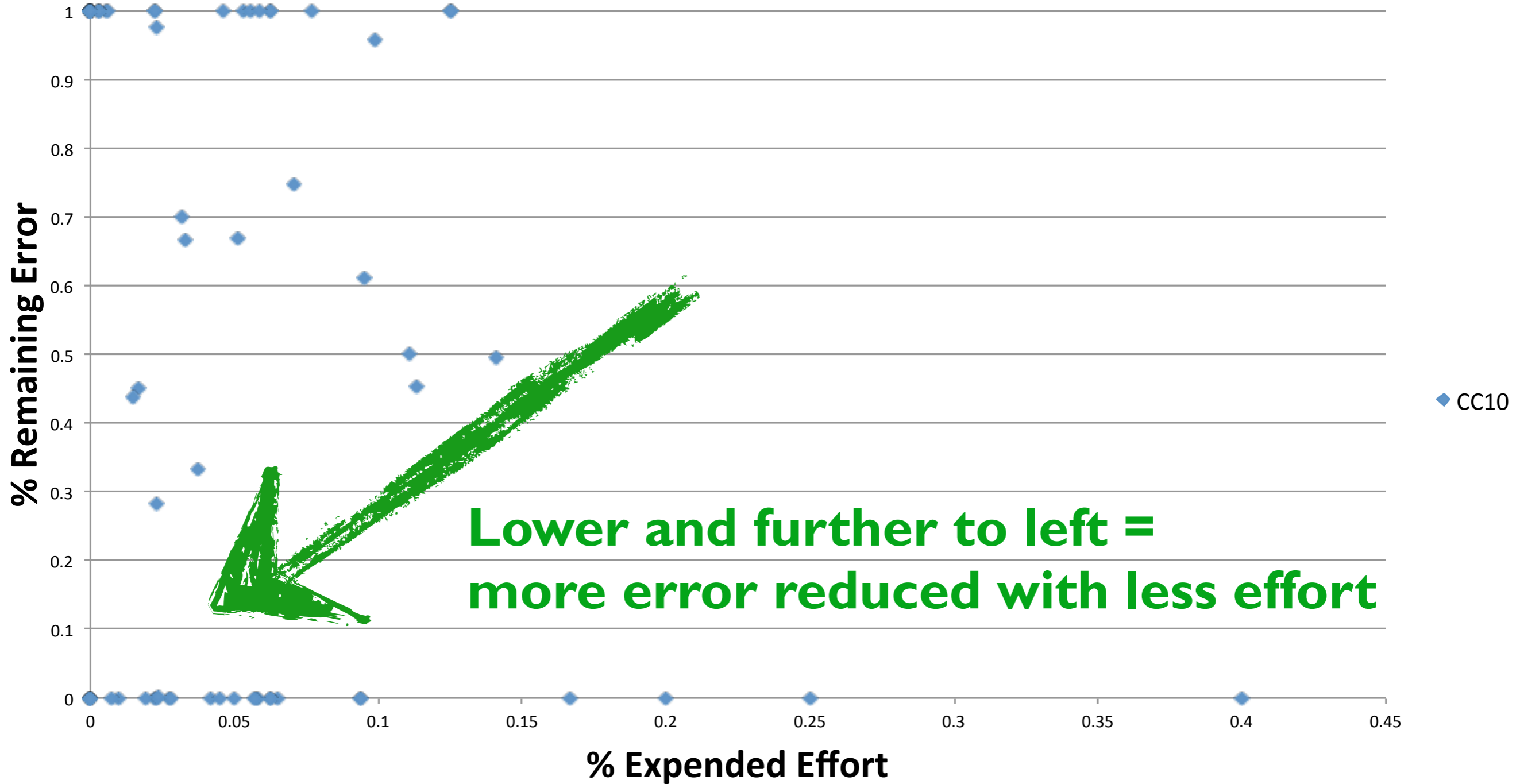
Injected into ~70 randomly-chosen spreadsheets (5% error rate)



Measure error elimination efficiency:
Reduction in errors versus % cells inspected



CheckCell Error Elimination Efficiency



Case Study



FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

By Peter Coy | April 18, 2013

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [g+](#) [e](#) [m](#) [SEND TO kindle](#)

Photograph by Gregor Schuster

Reinhart-Rogoff spreadsheet

Case Study

FAQ: Reinhart, Rogoff, and the Excel Error That Changed History

By Peter Coy | April 18, 2013

[f](#)
[t](#)
[in](#)
[g+](#)
[m](#)
[e](#)
[SEND TO kindle](#)



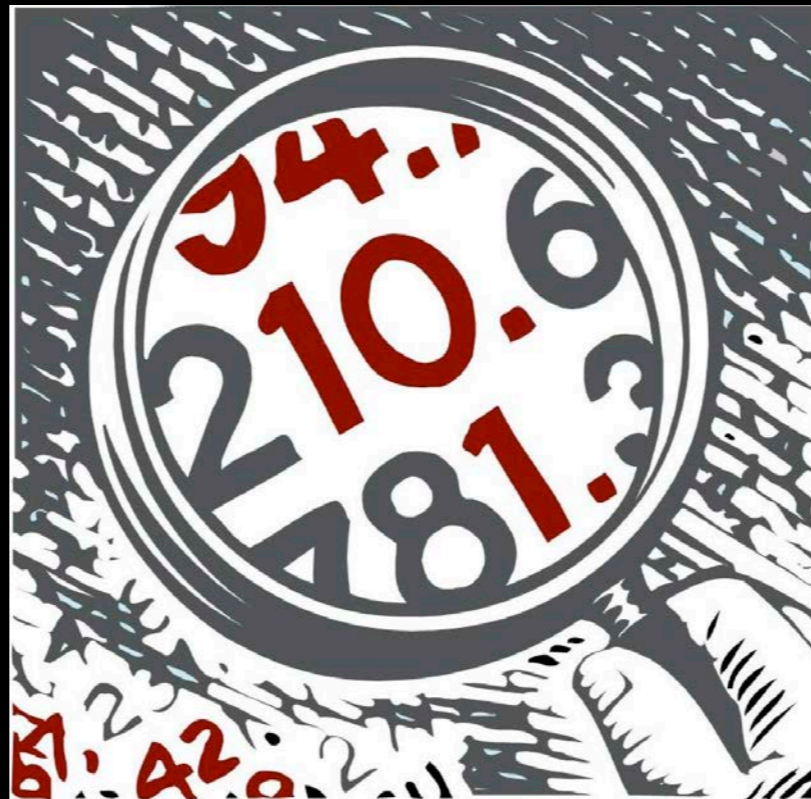
Photograph by Gregor Schuster

Country	Coverage	Total	Number of observations				Real GDP growth				Average			
			Debt/GDP				Debt/GDP				Inflation			
			30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above
US	1791-2009		129	59	23	5	4.0	3.4	3.3	-1.8	1.1	1.8	2.3	6
UK	1830-2009		3	68	27	82	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.8	0.8	4.2	1.4	2
Sweden	1880-2009		79	40	11	0	2.9	2.9	2.7	n.a.	2.8	4.6	4.2	n.
Spain	1850-2009		26	53	47	30	1.6	3.2	1.3	2.8	9.9	5.5	2.3	0
Portugal	1880-2009		42	10	39	0	4.8	2.5	1.4	n.a.	8.8	3.3	0.9	n.
Norway	1880-2009		98	25	1	0	2.9	4.4	10.2	n.a.	4.4	-0.1	0.0	n.
New Zealand	1932-2009		9	33	17	19	2.5	2.9	3.9	3.6	2.6	7.4	5.0	2
Netherlands	1880-2009		17	50	32	8	4.1	2.8	2.4	2.0	6.4	1.5	0.0	-2
Japan	1885-2009		47	42	11	11	4.9	3.7	3.9	0.7	6.0	2.1	3.2	-1
Italy	1880-2009		26	12	39	49	5.4	4.9	1.9	0.7	5.6	11.1	10.6	13
Ireland	1949-2009		8	14	32	7	4.4	4.5	4.0	2.4	2.9	4.8	7.3	5
Greece	1884-2009		13	5	11	55	4.0	0.3	4.8	2.5	13.3	19.4	12.3	2
Germany	1880-2009		96	11	0	0	3.6	0.9	n.a.	n.a.	1.8	1.5	n.a.	n.
France	1880-2009		26	21	19	37	4.9	2.7	2.8	2.3	5.2	5.0	1.5	1
Finland	1914-2009		69	18	6	3	3.2	3.0	4.3	1.9	10.3	5.4	13.2	32
Denmark	1880-2009		57	16	17	0	3.1	1.7	2.4	n.a.	2.5	4.7	3.3	n.
Canada	1925-2009		3	52	23	7	1.9	4.5	3.0	2.2	2.2	4.1	0.6	6
Belgium	1835-2009		37	60	32	31	3.0	2.6	2.1	3.3	1.0	2.0	3.0	3
Austria	1880-2009		43	32	35	0	4.3	3.0	2.3	n.a.	5.3	2.4	0.7	n.
Australia	1902-2009		38	33	23	8	3.1	4.1	2.3	4.6	5.9	2.9	5.2	3
			2317	866	654	445	3.7	3.0	3.5	1.7	5.5	5.2	4.6	5
Minimum							1.6	0.3	1.3	-1.8	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-2
Maximum							5.4	4.9	10.2	3.6	13.3	19.4	13.2	32

Reinhart-Rogoff spreadsheet

Case Study

e: December 5, 2009		Number of observations					Average												M
Country	Coverage	Total	Debt/GDP				Real GDP growth Debt/GDP				Inflation Debt/GDP				Real GDP growth Debt/GDP				
			30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	30 or less	30 to 60	60 to 90	90 or above	
US	1791-2009		129	59	23	5	4.0	3.4	3.3	-1.8	1.1	1.8	2.3	6.1	4.0	3.7	3.4	-0.1	
UK	1830-2009		3	68	27	82	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.8	0.8	4.2	1.4	2.0	2.0	2.6	1.8	2.1	
Sweden	1880-2009		79	40	11	0	2.9	2.9	2.7	n.a.	2.8	4.6	4.2	n.a.	3.3	3.0	2.9	n.a.	
Spain	1850-2009		26	53	47	30	1.6	3.2	1.3	2.8	9.9	5.5	2.3	0.5	1.7	3.3	0.8	2.1	
Portugal	1880-2009		42	10	39	0	4.8	2.5	1.4	n.a.	8.8	3.3	0.9	n.a.	5.4	2.4	1.4	n.a.	
Norway	1880-2009		98	25	1	0	2.9	4.4	10.2	n.a.	4.4	-0.1	0.0	n.a.	3.0	4.4	10.2	n.a.	
New Zealand	1932-2009		9	33	17	19	2.5	2.9	3.9	3.6	2.6	7.4	5.0	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	4.1	
Netherlands	1880-2009		17	50	32	8	4.1	2.8	2.4	2.0	6.4	1.5	0.0	-2.2	4.2	3.1	2.0	1.1	
Japan	1885-2009		47	42	11	11	4.9	3.7	3.9	0.7	6.0	2.1	3.2	-1.1	6.2	3.5	1.9	1.1	
Italy	1880-2009		26	12	39	49	5.4	4.9	1.9	0.7	5.6	11.1	10.6	13.1	5.8	3.1	1.6	1.1	
Ireland	1949-2009		8	14	32	7	4.4	4.5	4.0	2.4	2.9	4.8	7.3	5.3	5.3	4.1	3.7	3.1	
Greece	1884-2009		13	5	11	55	4.0	0.3	4.8	2.5	13.3	19.4	12.3	2.8	3.9	0.5	3.8	3.1	
Germany	1880-2009		96	11	0	0	3.6	0.9	n.a.	n.a.	1.8	1.5	n.a.	n.a.	3.6	1.2	n.a.	n.a.	
France	1880-2009		26	21	19	37	4.9	2.7	2.8	2.3	5.2	5.0	1.5	1.2	5.4	2.7	2.8	1.1	
Finland	1914-2009		69	18	6	3	3.2	3.0	4.3	1.9	10.3	5.4	13.2	32.7	3.3	3.2	3.8	0.1	
Denmark	1880-2009		57	16	17	0	3.1	1.7	2.4	n.a.	2.5	4.7	3.3	n.a.	2.8	0.8	2.6	n.a.	
Canada	1925-2009		3	52	23	7	1.9	4.5	3.0	2.2	2.2	4.1	0.6	6.0	2.5	4.2	4.1	2.1	
Belgium	1835-2009		37	60	32	31	3.0	2.6	2.1	3.3	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.1	
Austria	1880-2009		43	32	35	0	4.3	3.0	2.3	n.a.	5.3	2.4	0.7	n.a.	4.6	2.3	2.1	n.a.	
Australia	1902-2009		38	33	23	8	3.1	4.1	2.3	4.6	5.9	2.9	5.2	3.7	3.5	4.7	3.4	6.1	
			2317	866	654	352	3.7	3.0	3.5	1.7	5.5	5.2	4.6	5.7	3.9	3.1	2.8	1.1	
Minimum							1.6	0.3	1.3	-1.8	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-2.2	1.7	0.5	0.8	-0.1	
Maximum							5.4	4.9	10.2	3.6	13.3	19.4	13.2	32.7	6.2	4.4	10.2	4.1	



CheckCell: Data Debugging for Spreadsheets

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