

PHILOSOPHY OF STATISTICS
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS #2

- (1) As Sprenger explains, Neyman and Pearson committed to a behavioral interpretation of hypothesis testing, while Fisher favored a more evidential interpretation. Does one of these interpretation fit more naturally with externalist epistemology as described by Otsuka?
- (2) Otsuka (p. 106) concludes that “any statistical method, either Bayesian or frequentist, cannot be content with staying within just one epistemological framework.” In what sense could Bayesian methods have externalist justification? And classical methods internalist?
- (3) Is the internalism vs. externalism divide a fruitful way of analyzing the fundamental philosophical difference between the opposing schools?