



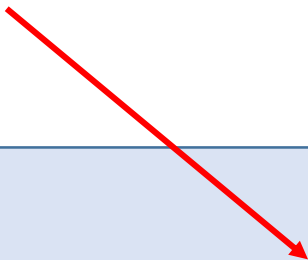
Extraction and Management of Occurrence Data

Day 2 – 27 February, 2023

9:00 – 9:45

Chemical risk assessment

Exposure to contaminant from dietary source(s) is compared to reference “safe” value to assess risk


$$\text{Estimated daily intake of contaminant} = \frac{\text{Daily food intake} \times \text{Concentration in food}}{\text{Body weight}}$$

- ❑ EDI (*ng/kg bw per day*)
- ❑ Daily food intake (*kg/day*)
- ❑ Concentration in food (*ng/kg*) → measured or extracted from database / literature
- ❑ Body weight (*kg*)

Study selection = “mini database”

- ❑ Define selection criteria: contaminant, food, country, years....
- ❑ Not necessarily straightforward (we’ll do an exercise)
- ❑ Extract ALL possible information from the selected studies
- ❑ Ex. adapted from Rahmani et al (2018)

The prevalence of aflatoxin M1 in milk of Middle East region: A systematic review, meta-analysis and probabilistic health risk assessment

Table 1
The main characteristic of included studies.

Country	Year	Sample size	Positive	Prevalence (%)	Method of detection	Mean (ng/kg)	SD ^a	SE ^b	Range	LOD (ng/kg) ^c	LOQ (ng/kg) ^d	Reference
Iran	2013	320	320	100 (320/320)	ELISA ^e	121	14.98	0.84	40–242			(Sadeghi et al., 2013)
Iran	2002	64	53	83 (64/53)	ELISA	207	130.41	16.30	69–387			(Kamkar, 2002)
Iran	2005	90	90	100 (90/90)	ELISA	60.17	54.00	5.69	7.31–141.2	5		(Mokhtarian and Mohsenzadeh, 2005)
Iran	2005	111	84	76 (111/84)	TLC ^f	60	23.00	2.18	15–280	1		(Kamkar, 2005)
Iran	2013	60	44	73 (60/44)	ELISA	55	30.25	3.91	17–390	3		(Kamkar et al., 2014)
Iran	2006	624	624	100 (624/624)	RIDASCREEN	112	70.56	2.82	NM ^g			(Alborzi et al., 2006)
Iran	2008	319	319	100 (319/319)	HPLC ^h	56.4	13.68	0.77	NM	5		(Tajkarimi et al., 2008b)
Iran	2012	100	100	100 (100/100)	HPLC	2.7	1.87	0.19	0.45–9.76			(Behfar et al., 2012)
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Data preparation = Excel file

□ From each study, for exposure assessment, we need:

- **Number of samples tested**
- **Mean**
- **Standard deviation** (or RSD)
- Range [min, max]
- LOD / LOQ values
- Number of samples $<$ LOD / LOQ (“non detects”)
- Number of samples between LOD and LOQ (if applicable)



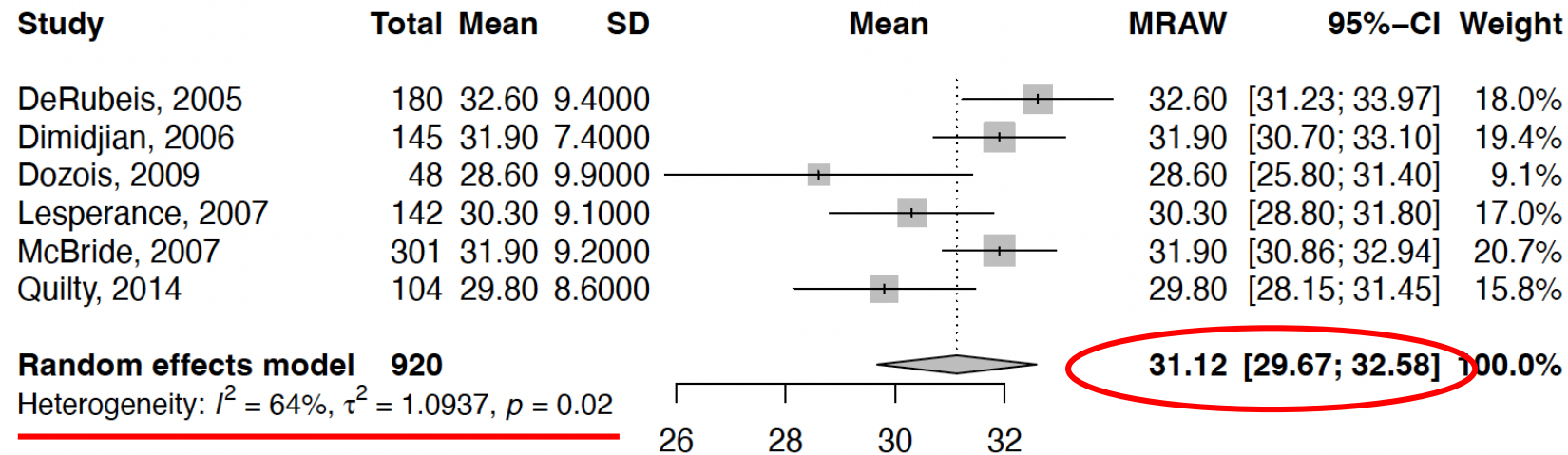
□ Will most likely result in additional data exclusions

Meta-analysis

- ❑ Can we pool data from different studies together?
 - Treat it as one single data set
- ❑ Check heterogeneity (most likely)
- ❑ Use Random Effects Model to estimate pooled values
 - “meta” package in R
 - Concentration
 - Prevalence

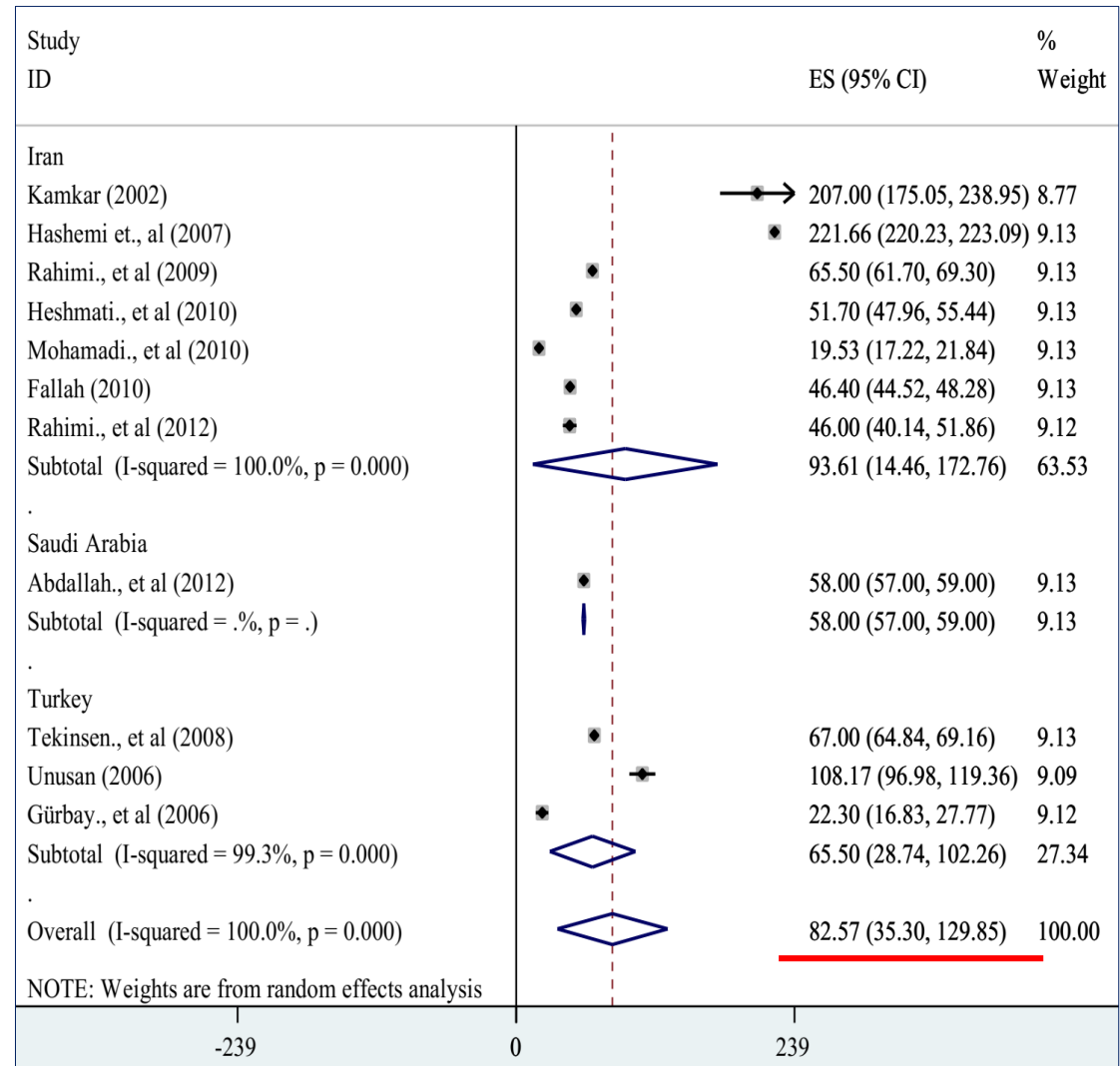
Meta-analysis outputs

- ❑ Easy to produce for studies with n, mean and SD
- ❑ Forest plot: `forest.meta()`
- ❑ Full analysis: `metamean()` / `metaprop()`
- ❑ Ex. using data from R database



Ex. Rahmani et al (2018)

Concentration of AFM1 in UHT milk in countries in the Middle East



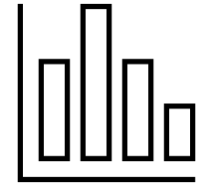
Data pooling

- ❑ Could do it for Egypt for several mycotoxin / food combinations
- ❑ Gives us a point value (e.g., pooled mean, pooled prevalence)
- ❑ Useful for deterministic exposure assessment, but not sufficient for probabilistic
 - Probabilistic includes variability; inputs and outputs = distributions

Probabilistic exposure assessment

❑ Need **raw** data to generate a distribution

- ALL data points
- Unlikely to be published
- Would need to generate in the lab (targeted study) or have access to monitoring data

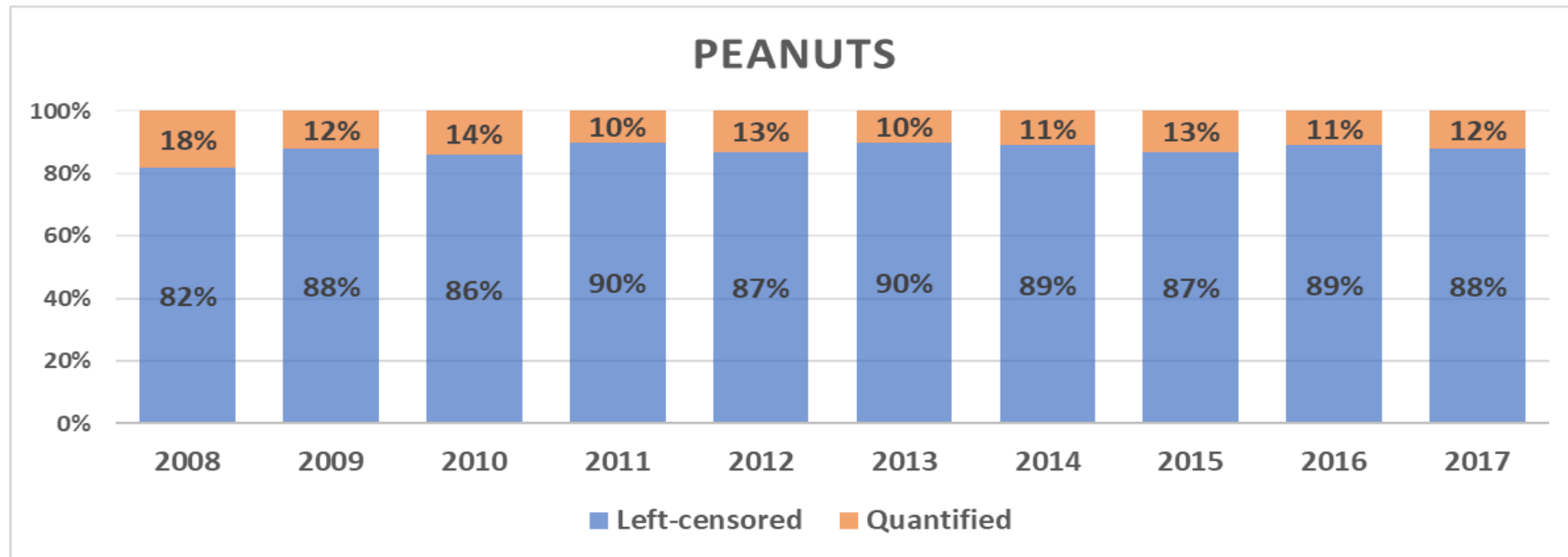


❑ Or, if we have [min, mean, max] we could do a triangular distribution

❑ But not sufficient for a full parametric model (e.g., LogNormal, Gamma, Weibull)

Left-censored data (“non detects”)

- ❑ Usually, for contaminants, a lot of data **points** $< \text{LOD}/\text{LOQ}$
- ❑ What to do with these values? Are they real 0s?
- ❑ Ex. EFSA (2020) aflatoxins risk assessment



Left-censored data (“non detects”)

First option: **substitution**

❑ Recommended by WHO/IPCS (2009) for chemicals likely to be present

❑ Used in EFSA (2020)

Proportion of results <LOD	Simple estimate of mean	Estimation of statistical mean, median, standard deviation
None, all quantified	true mean	
≤ 60% non-quantified	using LOD/2 for all results less than LOD ^a	Use methods in (Vlachonikolis and Marriott, 1995; Hecht and Honikel, 1995) and/or graphical methods ^{b,c}
> 60 but ≤ 80% non-quantified and with at least 25 results quantified.	Produce two estimates using 0 and LOD for all the results less than LOD ^{a,d}	Use methods in (Vlachonikolis and Marriott, 1995; Hecht and Honikel, 1995) and/or graphical methods ^{b,c} . Use with caution if total number of measurements is <100.
> 80% non-quantified, or if > 60% but ≤80% non-quantified and with <25 results quantified	Produce two estimates using 0 and LOD for all the results less than LOD ^{a,c}	None practicable

GEMS/Food-Euro (1995)

LB = use 0s

UB = substitute with LOD

EFSA (2010) guidelines

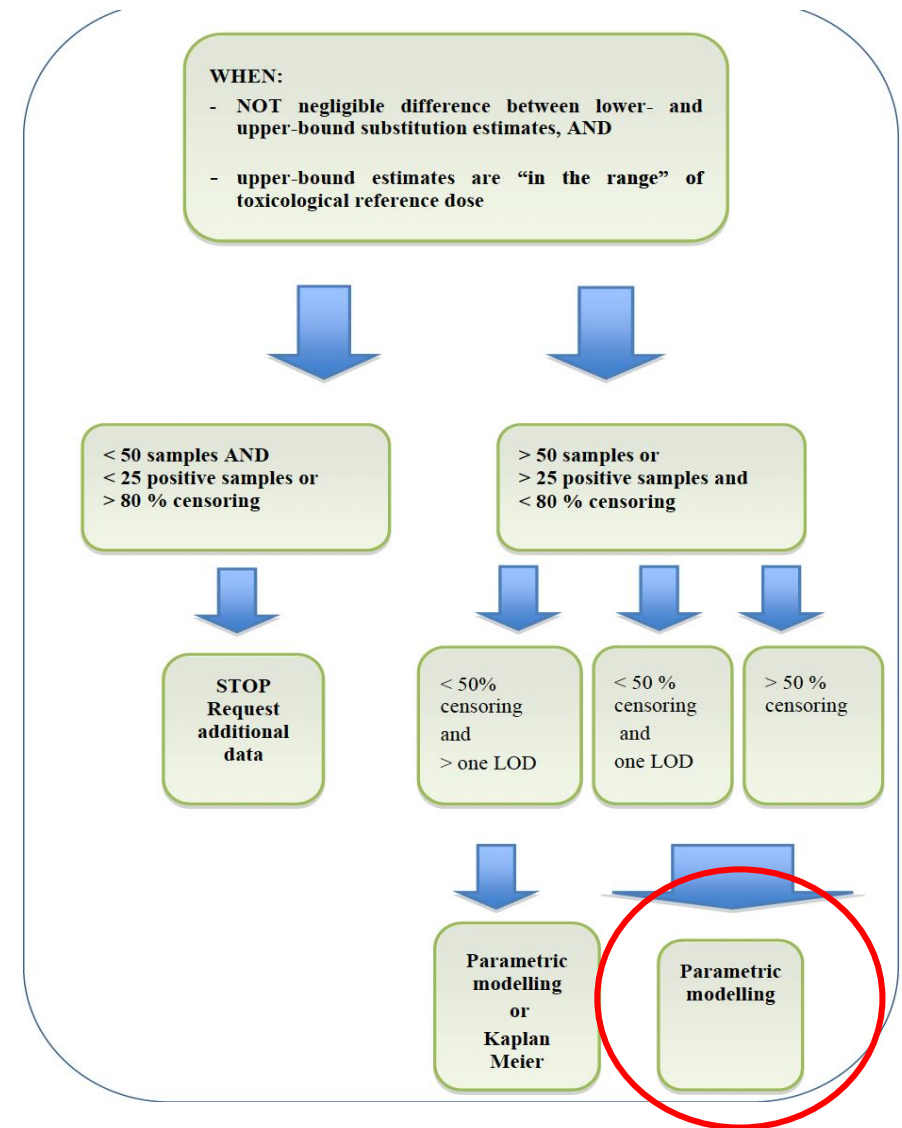
❑ If mean with / without substitution not different, then substitute 0s with LOD (= UB)

- Fit data to a not-censored distribution (parametric model)

❑ Otherwise, see flow chart

- Fit data to a distribution (parametric model)
- Not censored (LB and UB)
- Censored (LOD as left censored)

❑ But again, we need raw data to do this (e.g., from monitoring, like EFSA 2020 aflatoxins assessment)



Semi-probabilistic exposure assessment

- ❑ Simulate 3 scenarios [min, mean, max] OR
- ❑ Build a triangular distribution with [min, mean, max]

Mean

- Meta-analysis of studies from database or online, OR

- $Pooled\ mean = \frac{N1.M1 + N2.M2 + Nn.Mn}{N1 + N2 + Nn}$

Min (LOD?) / Max (highest observed value?)

- ❑ OR, select one single study and use their [min, mean, max]

