

# ECOFFs:

# Methods for Their Estimation

# Definition

- An epidemiological cutoff value is the MIC (or other similar quantitative measure of bug-drug interaction) that has the highest probability of distinguishing the wild-type population from the non-wild-type population

# Basic Assumptions

- ECOFFs are a feature of a single species
  - they cannot be applied or extrapolated to a genus or other larger grouping
- ECOFFs are “the same everywhere”
  - they do not change over time or vary geographically

# Data Requirements

- The MICs must have been measured with a **reference** method
  - ISO 20776-1 in the case of bacteria
  - ISO 16256 in the case of yeasts
  - Other reference methods as they are developed and agreed upon internationally

# Data Requirements

- All the MICs should, as far as is feasible, be **on-scale**
  - a small proportion of wild-type population values could be included as “ $\leq$ ”
    - ideally it should be  $<5\%$ , although it is possible to provide a reasonable estimate of ECOFFs if the mode is not also the lowest concentration tested
  - “ $>$ ” and “ $\geq$ ” values are acceptable in the data set provided they are clearly separated from the wild-type population

# Data Pooling

- Because there is known variation between laboratories, as well as within laboratories, data from **several laboratories** are required for estimation of ECOFFs to ensure variation is accounted for
- The predictive power of ECOFFs increases as the number of laboratories increases
  - a working rule at the present is a minimum of **3 labs** preferably with at least 35 presumptive wild-type values although a total of  **$\geq 100$**  overall is usually satisfactory



# Issues with Pooling

CRNEO	Amphotericin B										
MIC	Log <sub>2</sub> MIC	Gua	Cue	Os	An	Ful	Ann	Ter	Br	Mi	Con
	t-test p=	0.3302	0.0000	0.0315	0.4667	0.0000	0.0000	0.0062	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Comp Gp		2412	2218	2400	2157	2316	2111	2340	1801	1681	2380
	Mean	-1.2106	-1.1145	-1.2046	-1.2151	-1.2379	-1.1284	-1.1979	-1.1049	-1.5663	-1.1765
	SD	1.0407	0.9767	1.0416	1.0569	1.0437	1.0486	1.0432	1.0675	0.9901	1.0164
	t-test p=	0.4933	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1523	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
	ECV 95.0		0.5		1	1	0.5		1	1	
	ECV 97.5		1		1	2	0.5		1	2	
	ECV 99.0		1		2	2	1		1	2	
	ECV 99.9		2		2	2	1		2	2	
	% 95.0		9.2		3.4	3.7	5.1		0.3	2	
	% 97.5		1.0		3.4	0	5.1		0.3	0.3	
	% 99.0		1.0		0	0	0.6		0.3	0.3	
	% 99.9		0.5		0	0	0.6		0	0.3	
	Mean est		-2.8		-1.75	-1.08	-2.32		-1.93	-0.87	
	SD Est		0.991		0.835	0.652	0.586		0.719	0.461	



# Estimation Methods

- The “eyeball” method (Kahlmeter)
- The 95% rule (Pfaller)
- The Normalised Resistance Interpretation (Kronvall)
- The iterative statistical method (Turnidge)
- Multimodal analysis (Meletiadis)
- Cluster analysis (Cantón)

# The “Eyeball” Method

## Antimicrobial wild type distributions of microorganisms

### Search

Method: ☒ MIC ☐ Disk diffusion

Antimicrobial:  Species:  Disk content:

Antimicrobial: Ampicillin (Method: MIC)

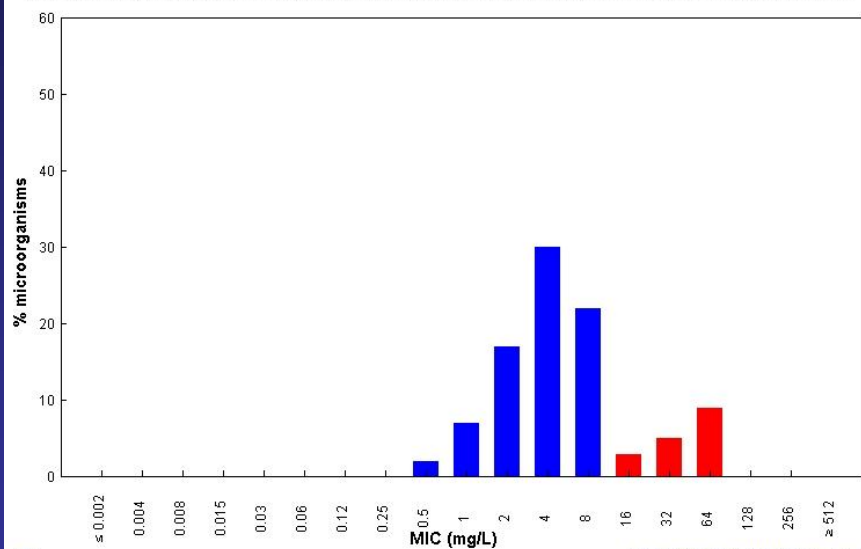
MIC distributions include collated data from multiple sources, geographical areas and time periods and can never be used to infer rates of resistance

	0.002	0.004	0.008	0.016	0.032	0.064	0.125	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	256	512	S≤	R>	ECOFF≤
<a href="#">Acinetobacter baumannii</a>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	14	18	62	244	673	2720	111	3	35	1	ND	ND	ND
<a href="#">Acinetobacter lwoffii</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6	13	32	62	44	42	32	118	0	0	0	0	ND	ND	ND
<a href="#">Acinetobacter spp</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	25	48	96	112	188	515	3224	1	1	0	0	ND	ND	ND
<a href="#">Bacteroides fragilis</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	8	11	50	123	185	37	34	70	120	0.5	2.0	ND
<a href="#">Bacteroides fragilis group</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	28	37	91	333	437	76	52	121	97	0.5	2.0	ND
<a href="#">Bacteroides ovatus</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	5	15	6	3	4	13	0.5	2.0	ND
<a href="#">Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	9	24	16	4	12	16	0.5	2.0	ND
<a href="#">Bacteroides vulgatus</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	9	7	3	2	10	10	0.5	2.0	ND
<a href="#">Bifidobacterium longum</a>	0	0	0	0	1	2	13	26	12	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.0	8.0	ND
<a href="#">Campylobacter coli</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	30	91	211	368	266	42	69	111	10	0	0	ND	ND	8.0
<a href="#">Campylobacter jejuni</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	29	143	223	172	83	78	55	12	1	3	0	ND	ND	8.0
<a href="#">Citrobacter freundii</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	17	44	30	8	3	84	17	0	0	8.0	8.0	8.0
<a href="#">Citrobacter spp</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	22	26	26	39	23	11	9	18	8.0	8.0	ND
<a href="#">Enterobacter agglomerans</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8	52	66	16	13	14	7	0	1	8.0	8.0	ND
<a href="#">Enterobacter cloacae</a>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	12	20	19	18	14	8	11	8.0	8.0	ND

# The “Eyeball” Method

**Ampicillin / *Campylobacter coli***  
EUCAST MIC Distribution - Reference Database 2012-12-18

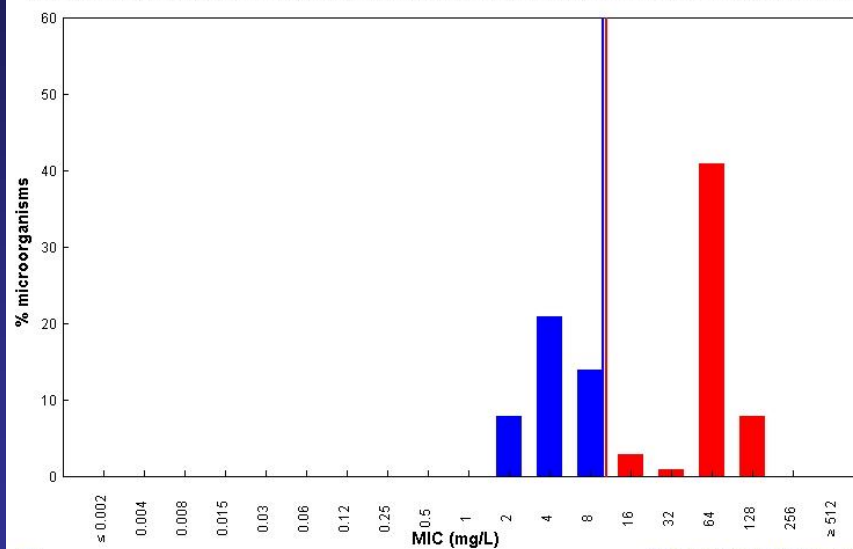
MIC distributions include collated data from multiple sources, geographical areas and time periods and can never be used to infer rates of resistance



MIC 1208 observations (10 data sources)  
Epidemiological cut-off: WT ≤ 8 mg/L Clinical breakpoints: S ≤ - mg/L, R > - mg/L

**Ampicillin / *Citrobacter freundii***  
EUCAST MIC Distribution - Reference Database 2012-12-18

MIC distributions include collated data from multiple sources, geographical areas and time periods and can never be used to infer rates of resistance



MIC 204 observations (2 data sources)  
Epidemiological cut-off: WT ≤ 8 mg/L Clinical breakpoints: S ≤ 8 mg/L, R > 8 mg/L

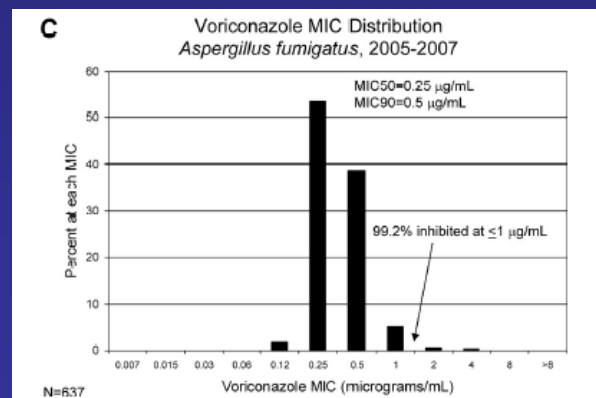
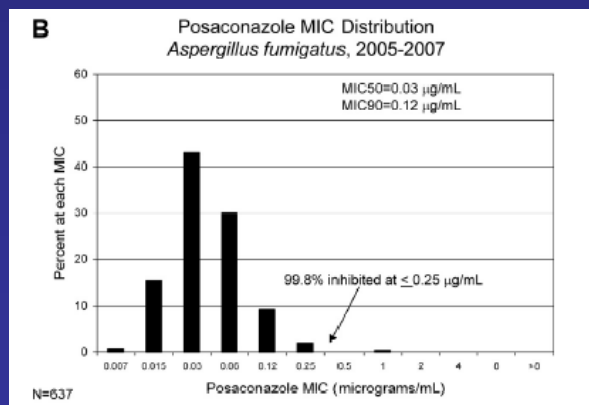
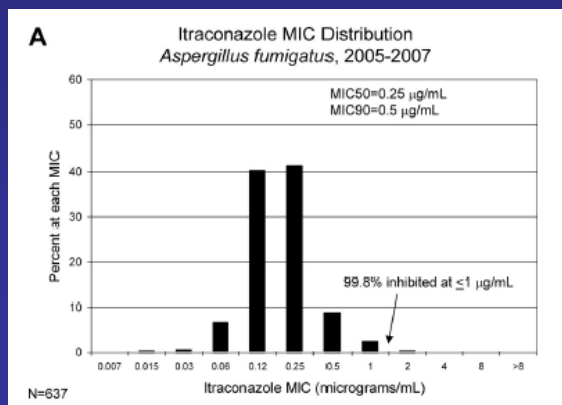
# The “Eyeball” Method

- Issues
  - Not necessarily reproducible between observers
  - No “objective” way of describing the selection

# The 95% Rule

- Pfaller et al., J Clin Microbiol 2009

The ECV for each azole was obtained by considering the WT MIC distribution, the modal MIC for each distribution, and the inherent variability of the test (usually  $\pm 1 \log_2$  dilution). In general, the ECV should encompass at least 95% of isolates in the WT distribution (43). Organisms with acquired resistance mechanisms may be identified as those with a MIC higher than the highest MIC of the WT ( $>ECV$ ) (25, 44).



# The 95% Rule

- Issues
  - Not clear direction about what should be done when a significant number of isolates in the population (i.e. >5%) are above wild-type

# The Normalized Resistance Interpretation

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, Dec. 2010, p. 4445–4452  
0095-1137/10/\$12.00 doi:10.1128/JCM.01101-10  
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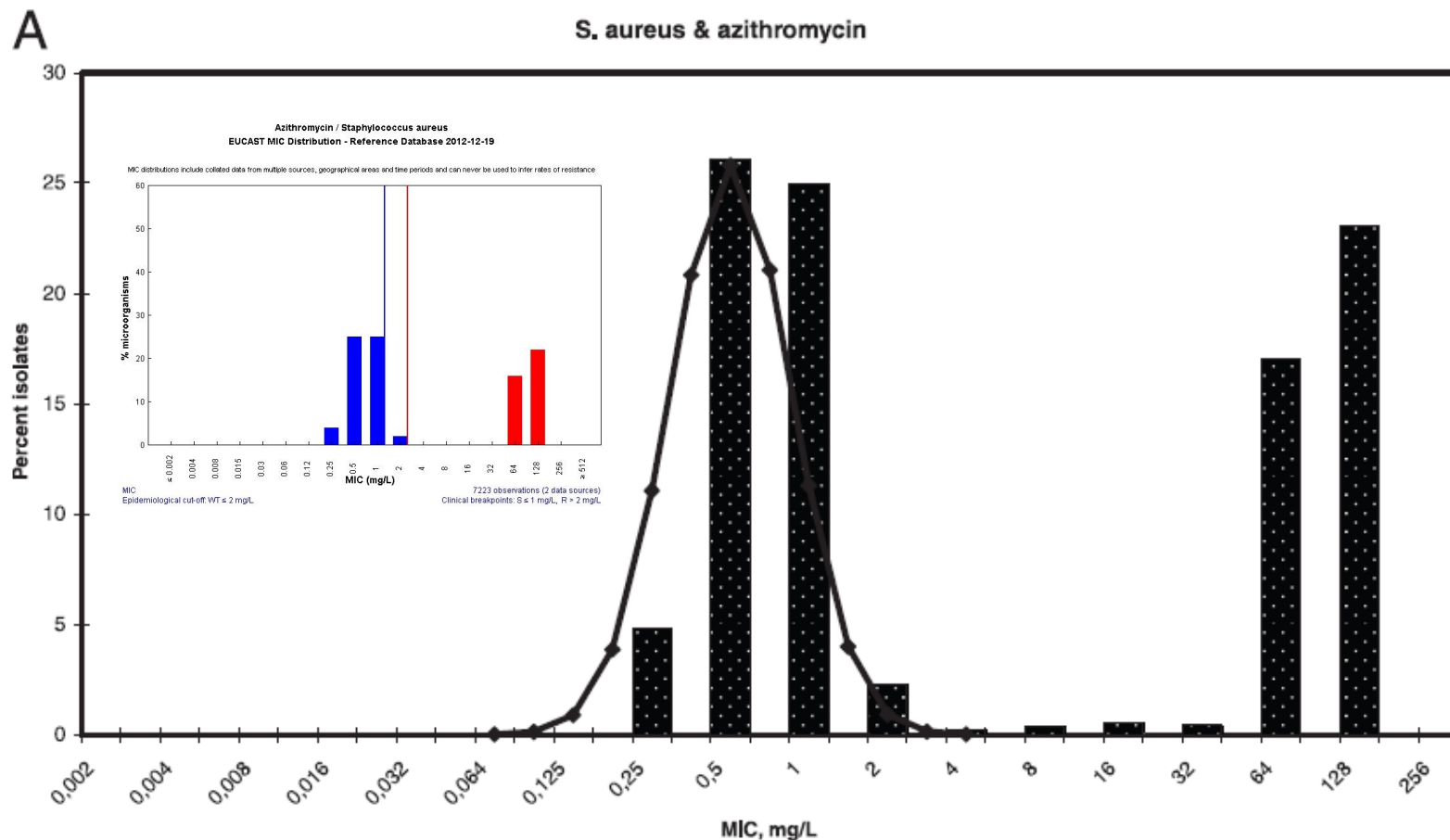
## Normalized Resistance Interpretation as a Tool for Establishing Epidemiological MIC Susceptibility Breakpoints<sup>▽</sup>

Göran Kronvall\*

*Department of Microbiology and Tumor Biology–MTC, Clinical Microbiology, Karolinska Institutet,  
Karolinska University Hospital Solna, Stockholm, Sweden*

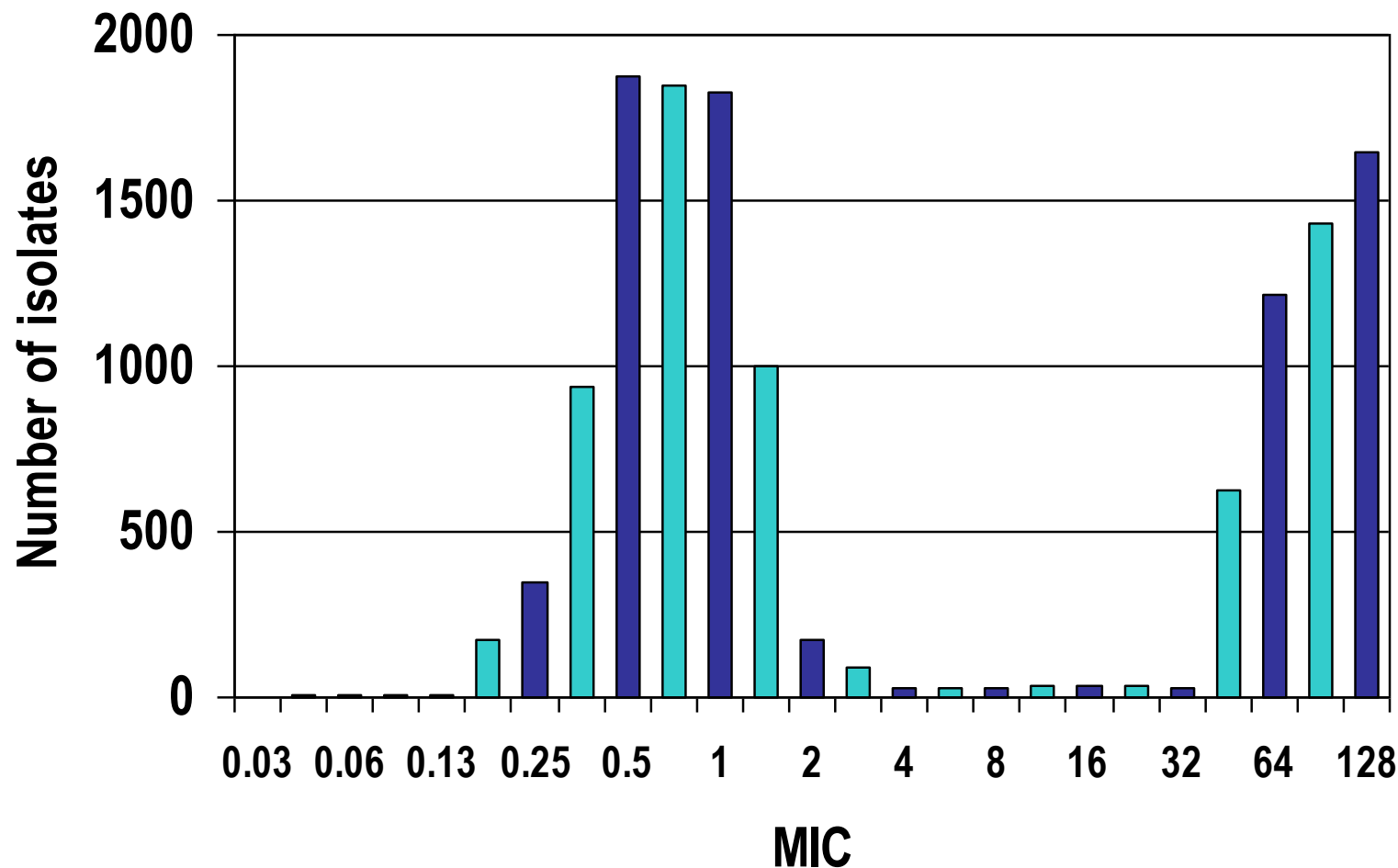
- Uses an adaptation of a method originally devised for “ECOFFs” for zone diameter distributions
  - Kronvall et al., Clin Micro Infect 2003

# The Normalized Resistance Interpretation





# The Normalized Resistance Interpretation



# The Normalized Resistance Interpretation

- Issues
  - Requires the introduction of a ‘helper variable’ (dummy data) into the observed data to work on MIC values in the two-fold dilution ( $\log_2$ ) scale.

# Iterative Statistical Method

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

10.1111/j.1469-0691.2006.01377.x

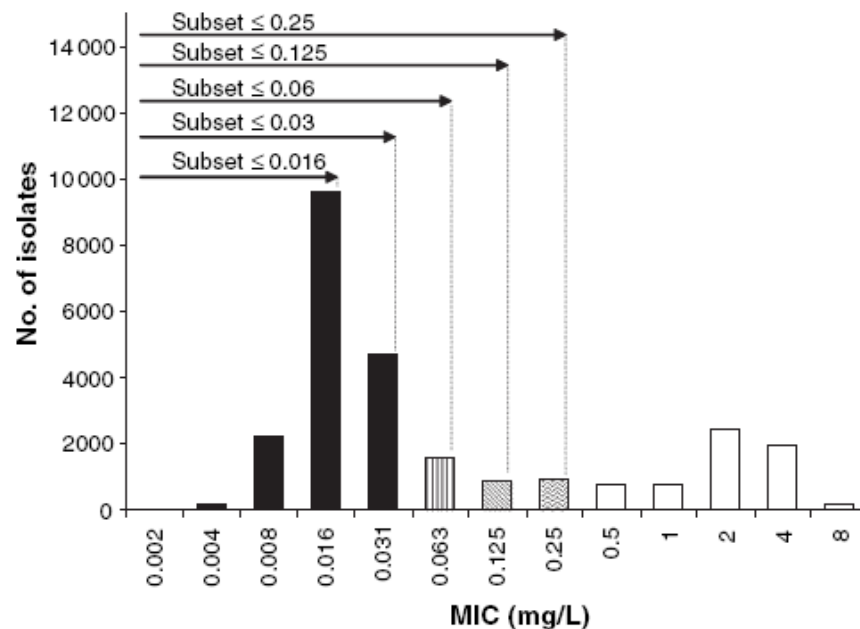
## Statistical characterisation of bacterial wild-type MIC value distributions and the determination of epidemiological cut-off values

*J. Turnidge<sup>1</sup>, G. Kahlmeter<sup>2</sup> and G. Kronvall<sup>3</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Division of Laboratory Medicine, Women's and Children's Hospital, North Adelaide, South Australia, Australia, <sup>2</sup>Department of Clinical Microbiology, Central Hospital, Växjö and <sup>3</sup>Department of Microbiology and Tumour Biology, MTC, Clinical Microbiology, Karolinska Institute, Karolinska Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

# Iterative Statistical Method

Recalculate (log2)  
mean and SD for  
each subset  
above the  
(left-hand) mode



- Initial subset with MICs  $\leq 0.03$  mg/L
- Data added to create subset with MICs  $\leq 0.06$  mg/L
- Further data added to create subset with MICs  $\leq 0.125$  mg/L
- Further data added to create subset with MICs  $\leq 0.25$  mg/L
- Data not added because curve-fitting worsened beyond 0.25 mg/L

# Iterative Statistical Method - COFinder

## Step 1. Population Data

CRGAT

FLUC All

MIC	Log <sub>2</sub> MIC	Raw Count	Cum. Count	Fitted
0.001	-10		0	0.0
0.002	-9		0	0.0
0.004	-8		0	0.0
0.008	-7		0	0.0
0.016	-6		0	0.0
0.03	-5		0	0.0
0.06	-4		0	0.0
0.125	-3		0	0.0
0.25	-2	2	2	0.5
0.5	-1	24	26	7.5
1	0	64	90	56.5
2	1	151	241	198.7
4	2	357	598	328.2
8	3	258	856	255.3
16	4	68	924	93.5
32	5	40	964	16.0
64	6	8	972	1.3
128	7	3	975	0.0
256	8		975	
512	9		975	
1024	10		975	

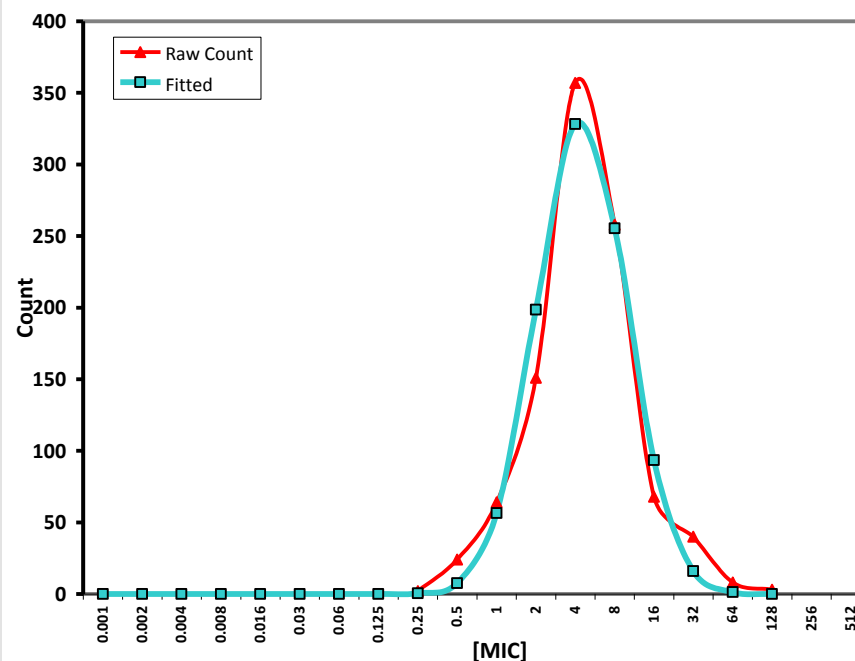
Enter/paste  
data  
in this column

Data from 10 laboratories

Modal MIC **4**  
Log<sub>2</sub>MIC Mode **2**  
Max Log<sub>2</sub>MIC **7**  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> Mean **1.6667** = 3.17  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> SD **1.1145**

Selected CO <sub>WT</sub> Values		%>
CO <sub>WT</sub> 95%	16	5.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 97.5%	16	5.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99%	32	1.1%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.9%	64	0.3%

## REVIEW AREA



Selected CO <sub>WT</sub> Values		%>
CO <sub>WT</sub> 95%	16	5.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 97.5%	16	5.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99%	32	1.1%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.9%	64	0.3%

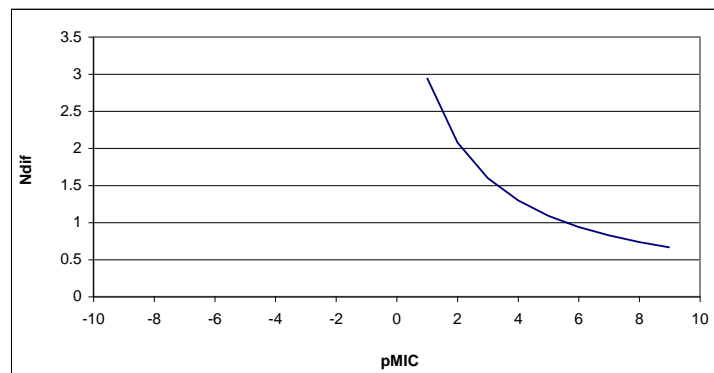
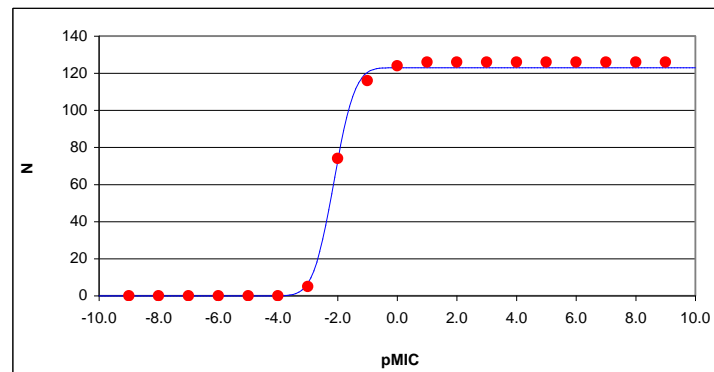
# Iterative Statistical Method - MicDat

## MAIN

	Auto	User				
Mean	-2.0000	-2.1281	Database	Datasets		
Sd	0.7420	0.5502				
Ntot	126	123	Fit	Reset	?	
From	7	7				
To	9	11	Analyze			
Ndata	19		Archive			
Mode	8					
SoSq	36					
Nit	10					
No	MIC	pMIC	Nobs	Ncum	Npre	Sq
1	0.00195313	-9.0		0	0	0
2	0.00390625	-8.0		0	0	0
3	0.0078125	-7.0		0	0	0
4	0.015625	-6.0		0	0	0
5	0.03125	-5.0		0	0	0
6	0.0625	-4.0		0	0	0
7	0.125	-3.0	5	5	7	4
8	0.25	-2.0	69	74	73	1
9	0.5	-1.0	42	116	121	21
10	1	0.0	8	124	123	1
11	2	1.0	2	126	123	9
12	4	2.0		126	123	9
13	8	3.0		126	123	9
14	16	4.0		126	123	9
15	32	5.0		126	123	9
16	64	6.0		126	123	9
17	128	7.0		126	123	9
18	256	8.0		126	123	9
19	512	9.0		126	123	9

Dataset	From	To	pMIC	Mean	Sd	Nest	Nobs	Ndif
1	7	11		-2.1281	0.5502	123	126	2.950851
2	7	12		-2.1218	0.5626	124	126	2.080609
3	7	13		-2.1181	0.5697	124	126	1.599968
4	7	14		-2.1158	0.5743	125	126	1.297617
5	7	15		-2.1141	0.5775	125	126	1.090579
6	7	16		-2.1129	0.5799	125	126	0.940163

## Trimethoprim (*S. agalactiae*)



Set	1	2	3	4
CUT-lo (%)	5.0	2.5	1.0	0.1
CUT-hi (%)	95.0	97.5	99.0	99.9
MIC-lo	0.063	0.063	0.063	0.063
MIC-hi	0.500	0.500	1.000	1.000
P-lo (%)	0.0334	0.0334	0.0334	0.0334
P-hi (%)	2.0162	2.0162	0.0055	0.0055

# Iterative Statistical Method

- Issues
  - Works well on bi- and tri-modal populations, but struggles when wild-type is 5% or less (uncommon!)

# Multimodal Analysis



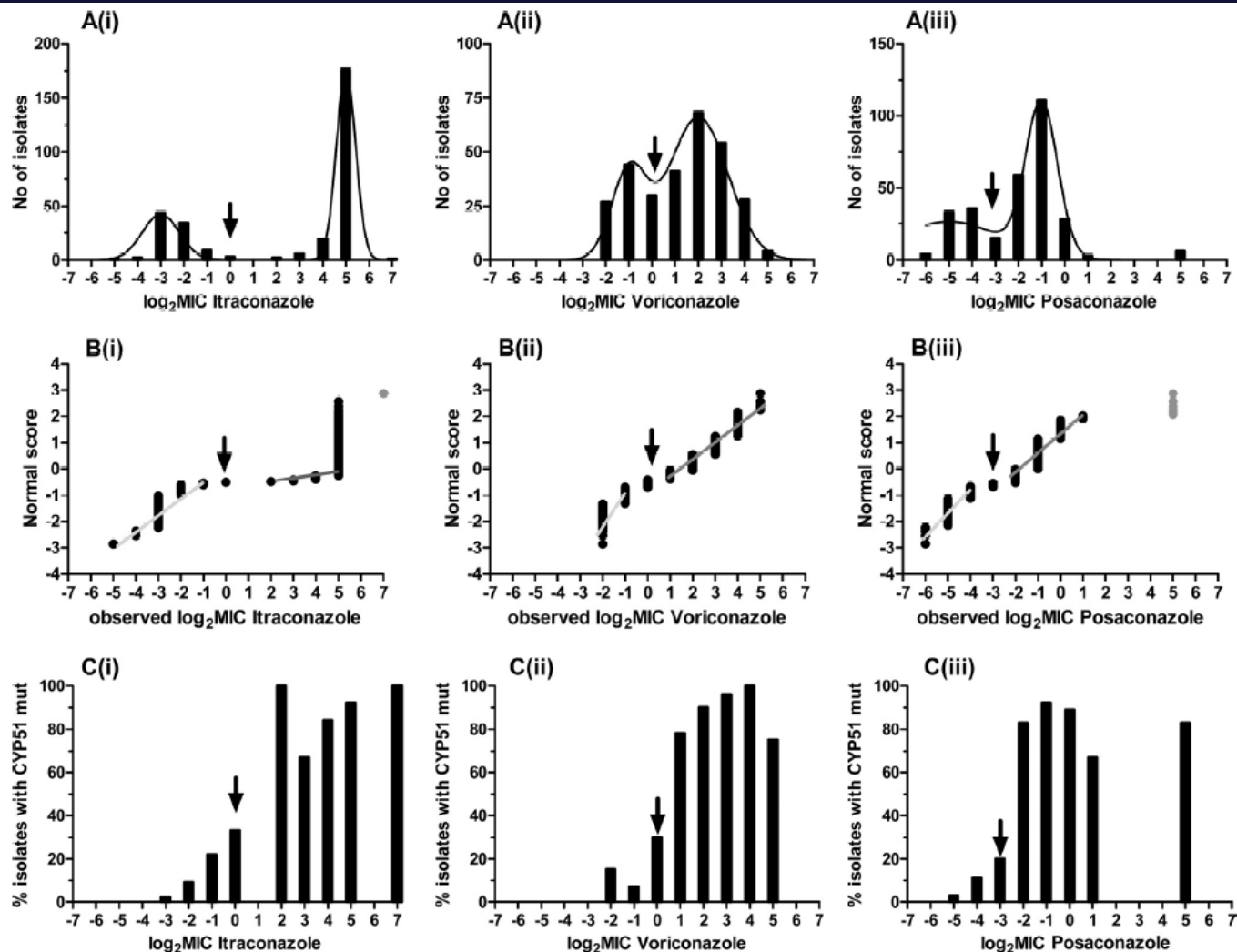
## Epidemiological Cutoff Values for Azoles and *Aspergillus fumigatus* Based on a Novel Mathematical Approach Incorporating *cyp51A* Sequence Analysis

J. Meletiadis,<sup>a</sup> E. Mavridou,<sup>b,c</sup> W. J. G. Melchers,<sup>b,c</sup> J. W. Mouton,<sup>b,c,d</sup> and P. E. Verweij<sup>b,c</sup>

Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Attikon University General Hospital, Medical School, University of Athens, Athens, Greece<sup>a</sup>; Department of Medical Microbiology<sup>b</sup> and Nijmegen Institute for Infection, Inflammation and Immunity,<sup>c</sup> Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen, the Netherlands; and Canisius Wilhelmina Hospital, Nijmegen, the Netherlands<sup>d</sup>



# Multimodal Analysis



# Multimodal Analysis

- Issues
  - Requires enrichment of the non-wild-type population to work properly

# Cluster Analysis



## Comparison of Three Statistical Methods for Establishing Tentative Wild-Type Population and Epidemiological Cutoff Values for Echinocandins, Amphotericin B, Flucytosine, and Six *Candida* Species as Determined by the Colorimetric Sensititre YeastOne Method

Emilia Cantón,<sup>a</sup> Javier Pemán,<sup>b</sup> David Hervás,<sup>c</sup> Carmen Iñiguez,<sup>d,e</sup> David Navarro,<sup>f</sup> Julia Echeverría,<sup>g</sup> José Martínez-Alarcón,<sup>h</sup> Dionisia Fontanals,<sup>i</sup> Bárbara Gomila-Sard,<sup>j</sup> Buenaventura Buendía,<sup>k</sup> Luis Torroba,<sup>l</sup> Josefina Ayats,<sup>m</sup> Angel Bratos,<sup>n</sup> Ferran Sánchez-Reus,<sup>o</sup> Isabel Fernández-Natal,<sup>p</sup> and the FUNGEMYCA Study Group

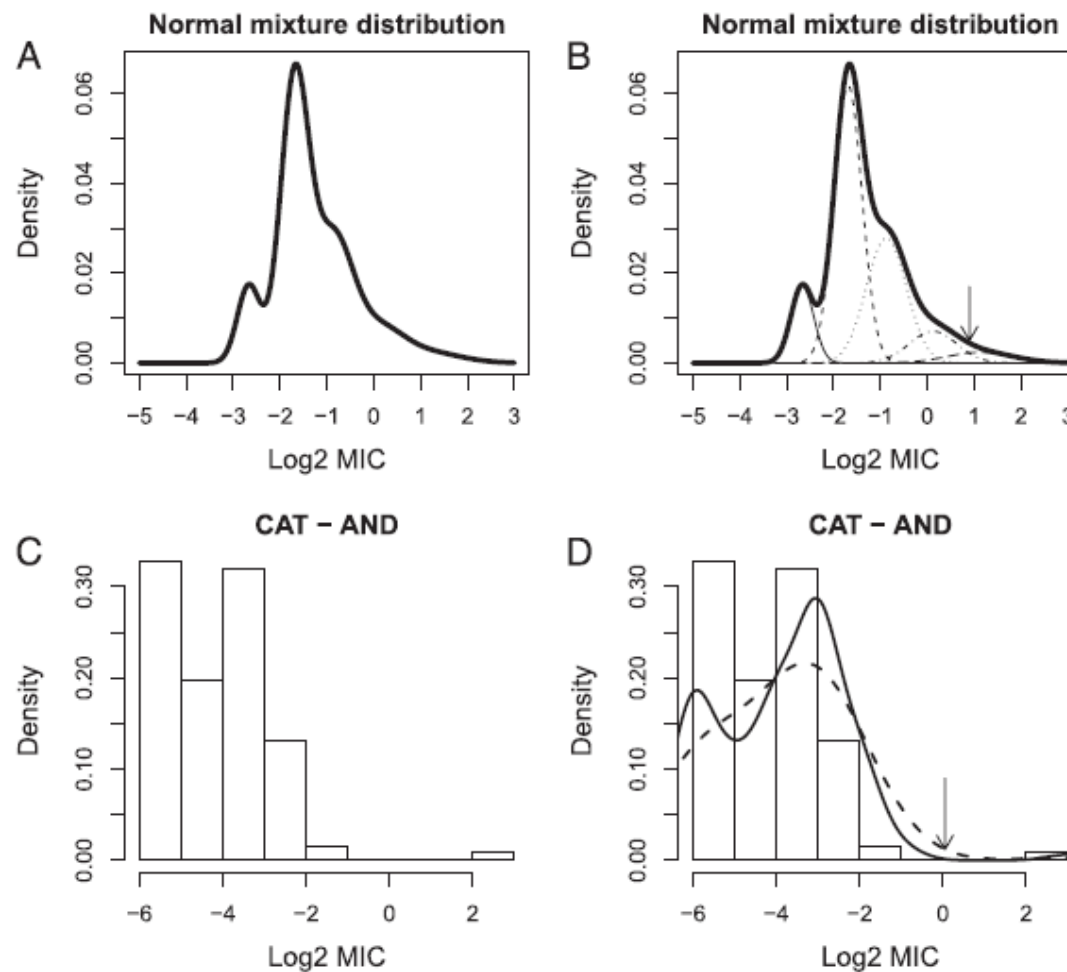
(version 3.4.11) (8, 9). To assess the ECVs of the different species for the different antifungals, instead of each species being considered a homogeneous group with a normal distribution, it was treated as a mixture of different subpopulations, each with its own normal distribution. A Gaussian mixture model is given by the following equation:

$$p(x|\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^M w_i g(x|\mu_i, \Sigma_i)$$

where  $x$  is a continuous variable,  $\lambda$  stands for the mean vectors, covariance

matrices, and mixture weights from all components,  $w_i$  is the probability that an observation belongs to the  $i$ th subpopulation, and  $g(x|\mu_i, \Sigma_i)$  shows the component Gaussian densities. In order to approach a normal mixture distribution, the  $\log_2$  MIC values were smoothed by a kernel density algorithm (26). The clustering technique selects the number of normal components in the mixture by estimation of the most parsimonious model by use of the Bayesian information criterion (BIC). It is then able to discern the different normal distributions in the mixture, producing a probabilistic clustering that quantifies the uncertainty of observations belonging to the different subpopulations. Consequently, the ECV was set at the point of maximal uncertainty between the most resistant subpopulation and the others (Fig. 1). Since the ECVs estimated by the clustering method are on a continuous scale, values were rounded to the nearest higher dilution after reversion to concentration units.

# Cluster Analysis



# Cluster Analysis

TABLE 3 Comparison of ECVs obtained for five antifungal agents by use of different methods

Species	No. of isolates tested	Agent <sup>a</sup>	ECV obtained by indicated method (%) <sup>b</sup>					Median for all 5 studied methods	CLSI method <sup>d</sup>
			MIC <sub>50</sub> + 2 dilutions	Modal MIC + 2 dilutions	Method of Turnidge et al.	Method of Kronvall <sup>c</sup>	Clustering method <sup>c</sup>		
<i>C. albicans</i>	656	AND	0.12 (99.7)	0.06 (84.45)	0.25 (98.5)	0.25 (95.65)	0.25 (98.63)	0.25 (98.5)	0.12 (99.7)
	659	MCF	0.06 (95.1)	0.06 (95.1)	0.06 (95.1)	0.12 (94.95)	0.06 (94.99)	0.06 (95.1)	0.03 (97.7)
	747	CAS	0.25 (98.7)	0.25 (98.7)	0.25 (98.7)	0.5 (98.99)	0.25 (98.66)	0.25 (98.7)	0.12 (99.8)
	923	AMB	1 (100)	2 (00)	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	2 (99.8)
	915	FLC	0.25 (90.27)	0.25 (90.27)	1 (96.4)	1 (96.99)	2 (98.8)	1 (98.5)	0.5 (94.2)
<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	352	AND	4 (99.71)	8 (100)	8 (100)	8 (99.87)	4 (99.75)	8 (100)	4 (100) <sup>e</sup>
	392	MCF	4 (99.23)	4 (99.23)	8 (100)	8 (99.36)	4 (99.24)	4 (99.2)	4 (100) <sup>e</sup>
	490	CAS	2 (99.2)	2 (99.2)	4 (99.8)	4 (99.39)	2 (99.19)	2 (99.2)	1 (98.6) <sup>e</sup>
	603	AMB	1 (99.83)	1 (99.83)	2 (100)	2 (99.92)	1 (100)	1 (99.8)	2 (99.7)
	635	FLC	0.25 (93.7)	0.25 (93.7)	0.5 (97.9)	1 (98.48)	2 (99.52)	0.5 (97.9)	0.5 (98.7)
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	123	AND	0.25 (96.75)	0.5 (99.2)	1 (99.2)	1 (99.59)	1 (99.18)	1 (99.2)	0.12 (98.9)
	121	MCF	0.12 (99.2)	0.12 (99.2)	0.12 (99.2)	0.25 (99.58)	0.5 (99.17)	0.12 (99.2)	0.12 (99.1)
	138	CAS	0.25 (99.3)	0.25 (99.3)	0.5 (100)	0.5 (99.64)	0.25 (99.28)	0.25 (99.2)	0.12 (99.4)
	171	AMB	2 (100)	2 (100)	2 (100)	2 (99.11)	1 (98.82)	2 (100)	2 (99.8)
	175	FLC	0.25 (96.57)	0.25 (96.57)	0.5 (97.1)	0.5 (97.31)	0.5 (97.65)	0.5 (97.2)	0.5 (93.0)
<i>C. glabrata</i>	174	AND	0.12 (96.55)	0.12 (96.55)	0.12 (96.55)	0.25 (97.1)	0.25 (96.55)	0.12 (96.6)	0.25 (99.4)
	174	MCF	0.06 (95.97)	0.06 (95.97)	0.06 (95.97)	0.25 (96.33)	0.06 (95.98)	0.06 (96.0)	0.03 (98.2)
	188	CAS	0.25 (98.4)	0.25 (98.4)	0.25 (98.4)	0.5 (98.65)	0.12 (93.62)	0.25 (98.4)	0.12 (98.5)
	209	AMB	2 (100)	2 (100)	2 (100)	2 (99.76)	1 (99.52)	2 (100)	2 (99.6)
	208	FLC	0.25 (97.6)	0.25 (97.6)	0.25 (97.6)	0.5 (97.83)	0.12 (95.67)	0.25 (97.6)	0.5 (98.0)
<i>C. krusei</i>	33	AND	0.25 (96.97)	0.25 (96.97)	0.25 (97.0)	0.5 (98.44)	1 (96.97)	0.25 (97.0)	0.12 (99.3)
	33	MCF	0.5 (93.94)	0.5 (93.94)	0.25 (94.0)	1 (96.83)	0.25 (93.94)	0.5 (93.9)	0.12 (97.8)
	37	CAS	1 (91.89)	1 (91.89)	2 (94.6)	4 (95.77)	1 (91.89)	1 (91.9)	0.25 (96.3)
	51	AMB	2 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	2 (100)	4 (100)	2 (99.3)
	53	FLC	32 (100)	32 (100)	64 (100)	64 (100)	16 (98.11)	32 (100)	32 (94.4)
<i>C. orthopsilosis</i>	33	AND	2 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	4 (98.46)	2 (97.06)	4 (100)	2 (100)
	33	MCF	2 (100)	2 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)
	54	CAS	2 (100)	2 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	2 (100)	2 (100)	0.5 (100)
	90	AMB	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	ND
	91	FLC	0.25 (93.41)	0.25 (93.41)	1 (97.8)	0.5 (96.07)	0.25 (94.44)	0.25 (93.4)	ND

# Cluster Analysis

TABLE 3 Comparison of ECVs obtained for five antifungal agents by use of different methods

Species	No. of isolates tested	Agent <sup>a</sup>	ECV obtained by indicated method (%) <sup>b</sup>					Median for all 5 studied methods	CLSI method <sup>d</sup>
			MIC <sub>50</sub> + 2 dilutions	Modal MIC + 2 dilutions	Method of Turnidge et al.	Method of Kronvall <sup>c</sup>	Clustering method <sup>c</sup>		
<i>C. albicans</i>	656	AND	0.12 (99.7)	0.06 (84.45)	0.25 (98.5)	0.25 (95.65)	0.25 (98.63)	0.25 (98.5)	0.12 (99.7)
	659	MCF	0.06 (95.1)	0.06 (95.1)	0.06 (95.1)	0.12 (94.95)	0.06 (94.99)	0.06 (95.1)	0.03 (97.7)
	747	CAS	0.25 (98.7)	0.25 (98.7)	0.25 (98.7)	0.5 (98.99)	0.25 (98.66)	0.25 (98.7)	0.12 (99.8)
	923	AMB	1 (100)	2 (00)	2 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	2 (99.8)
	915	FLC	0.25 (90.27)	0.25 (90.27)	1 (96.4)	1 (96.99)	2 (98.8)	1 (98.5)	0.5 (94.2)

- Issues
  - Assumes that the wild-type population is a true mixture of sub-populations, rather than assay variation
  - Could be re-interpreted as site-to-site mixture

# Limitations

- Little work has been done to ‘validate’ the ECOFFs with molecular analyses (e.g. resistance gene detection)
  - Meletiadis et al. AAC 2012
  - Pfaller et al. Drug Resist Updates 2011
  - AFST and AST Agenda papers!
- The 2-fold dilution scale that we use for MIC measurements, while the simplest of the integer log scales, is in reality TOO COURSE, limiting the predictive power of estimations

# Limitations

- It remains unclear whether the wild-type populations of MICs are due to true biological variation, only assay variation, or a combination of both
  - if it's just assay variation then all we need is a QC study!
- When pooling data for analysis, should data be weighted?
  - Weighting by “n” can change results
- Is it possible to identify ‘statistical outlier’ labs
  - Outlier strategy for QC studies doesn't seem to work?



# Data Pooling – Weighted vs Unweighted

- 9 laboratories – 77% from one laboratory - **unweighted**

## Step 1. Population Data

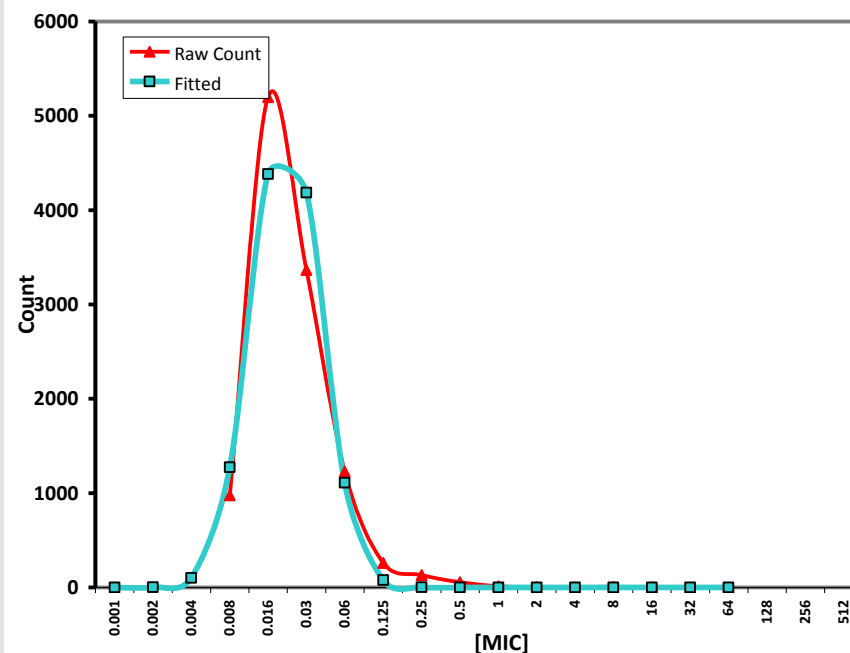
MIC	Log <sub>2</sub> MIC	Raw Count	Cum. Count	Fitted
0.001	-10		0	0.0
0.002	-9		0	2.1
0.004	-8		0	100.3
0.008	-7	976	976	1273.6
0.016	-6	5197	6173	4382.9
0.03	-5	3365	9538	4186.7
0.06	-4	1230	10768	1108.9
0.125	-3	259	11027	79.4
0.25	-2	132	11159	1.5
0.5	-1	55	11214	0.0
1	0	13	11227	0.0
2	1	3	11230	0.0
4	2	1	11231	0.0
8	3	7	11238	0.0
16	4	2	11240	0.0
32	5	0	11240	0.0
64	6	1	11241	0.0
128	7		11241	
256	8		11241	
512	9		11241	
1024	10		11241	

Modal MIC **0.0156**  
Log<sub>2</sub>MIC Mode **-6**  
Max Log<sub>2</sub>MIC **6**  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> Mean **-6.036** = 0.02  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> SD **0.8331**

Selected CO <sub>WT</sub> Values		%>
CO <sub>WT</sub> 95.0%	0.0625	4.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 97.5%	0.0625	4.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.0%	0.0625	4.2%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.9%	0.125	1.9%

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Enter/paste  
data  
in this column

## REVIEW AREA



# Data Pooling – Weighted vs Unweighted

- 9 laboratories – 77% from one laboratory - **weighted**

## Step 1. Population Data

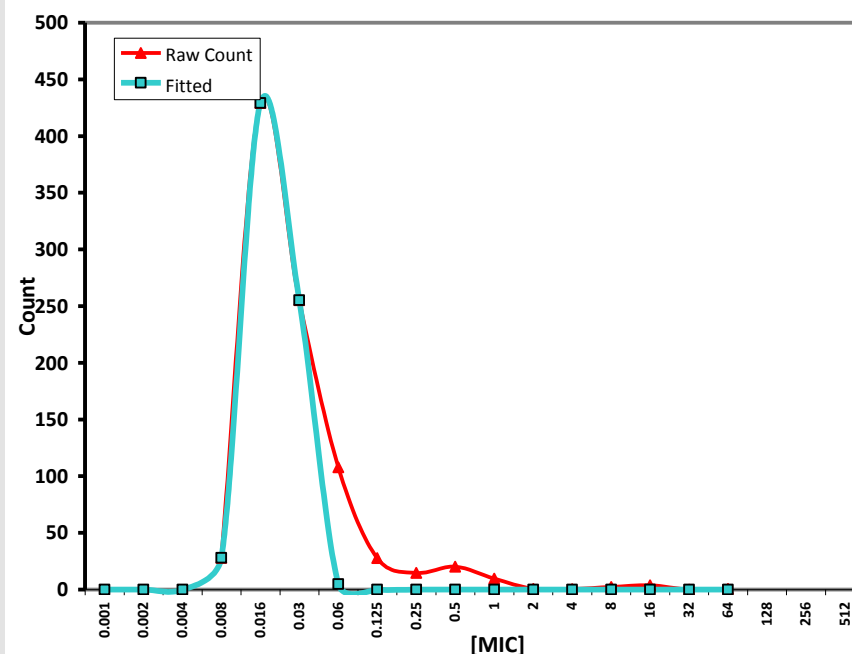
MIC	Log <sub>2</sub> MIC	Raw Count	Cum. Count	Fitted
0.001	-10		0	0.0
0.002	-9		0	0.0
0.004	-8		0	0.0
0.008	-7	28.00636365	28.00636365	28.0
0.016	-6	429.0781349	457.0844986	429.1
0.03	-5	255.2847671	712.3692657	255.3
0.06	-4	107.8577203	820.226986	4.9
0.125	-3	27.6833742	847.9103602	0.0
0.25	-2	14.6173611	862.5277213	0.0
0.5	-1	20.28967626	882.8173976	0.0
1	0	9.729328132	892.5467257	0.0
2	1	0.566441748	893.1131675	0.0
4	2	0.331125828	893.4442933	0.0
8	3	2.210468613	895.6547619	0.0
16	4	3.75	899.4047619	0.0
32	5	0	899.4047619	0.0
64	6	0.595238095	900	0.0
128	7		900	
256	8		900	
512	9		900	
1024	10		900	

Modal MIC **0.0156**  
Log<sub>2</sub>MIC Mode **-6**  
Max Log<sub>2</sub>MIC **6**  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> Mean **-6.166** = 0.01  
Selected Log<sub>2</sub> SD **0.4733**

Selected CO <sub>WT</sub> Values		%>
CO <sub>WT</sub> 95.0%	0.0313	20.8%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 97.5%	0.0313	20.8%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.0%	0.0313	20.8%
CO <sub>WT</sub> 99.9%	0.0625	8.9%

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Enter/paste  
data  
in this column

## REVIEW AREA



# Important Questions

- If ECOFFs are to be used for interpretation of susceptibility testing results:
  - should they be reported to the clinician?
  - if so, how?
- **Suggestion** – report as “**N**” = “**Non-wild-type**” with a comment/footnote”
  - \*N = non-wild-type