

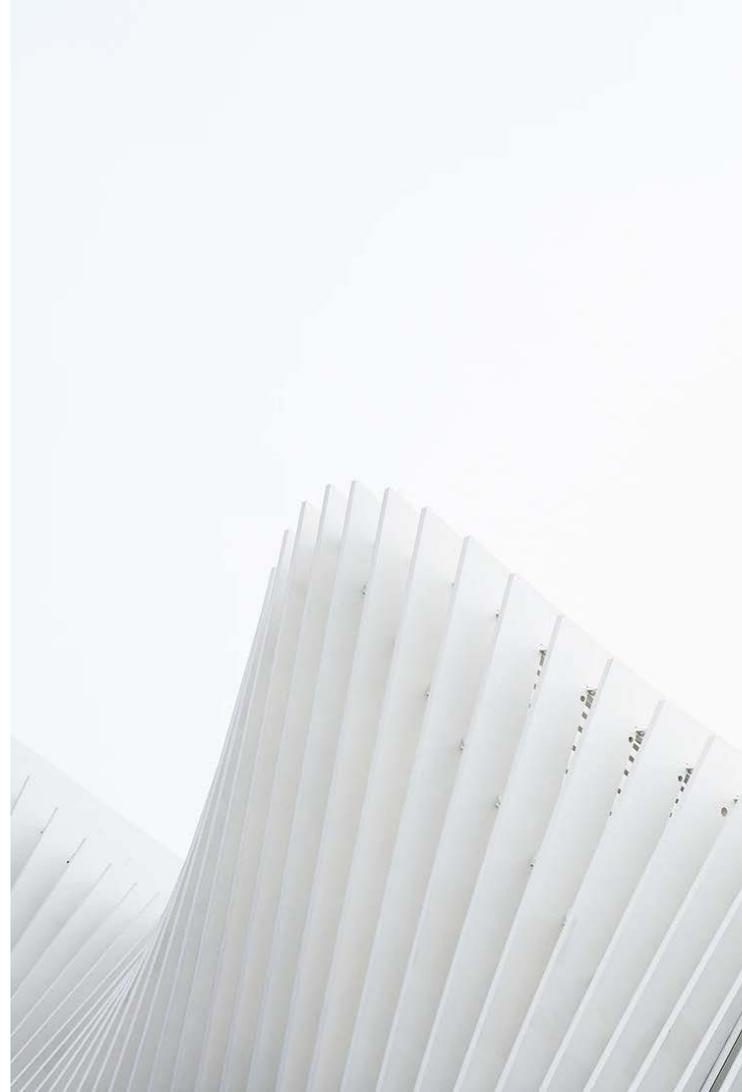
*East<sup>®</sup> Orientation Webinar Series:*  
**Conducting Sample Size Reassessment  
with Time-to-event Endpoints**

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# Agenda

- Methodology
- Case study
- Q/A
- Conclusion



# East gives you easy access to the adaptive designs that matter

## BASE

Popular tools for fixed-sample clinical trials.

## ESCALATE

Wide selection of model-based adaptive designs for Phase 1 dose escalation studies.

## MCPmod

Multiple Comparison Procedure Modeling for Phase 2 dose-finding studies.

## ENDPOINT

Strategic testing of multiple endpoints.

## EXACT

Tools for small sample clinical trials with binomial endpoints.

## MULTIARM

Tools for multi-arm fixed-sample clinical trials.

## SEQUENTIAL

Tools for group sequential clinical trials with normal or binomial endpoints.

## MAMS

Multi-arm multi-stage clinical trials.

## ADAPT

Allow for sample size re-estimation in trials with normal and binomial endpoints.

## SURVIVAL

Tools for group sequential clinical trials with survival endpoints.

## SURVADAPT

Allow for sample size re-estimation in trials with survival endpoints.

## ENRICH

Allow for population enrichment in trials with survival endpoints.

## PREDICT

Predict future course of trial at outset and interim analyses.

## PROGRAM

Design through simulation.

# Today's presentation

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# East SURVIVAL

## Test survival endpoints in superiority and non-inferiority studies

### SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME:

Compute events, sample size, study duration, for complex survival designs

### Pre-Requisites:

East SEQUENTIAL

### Functions:

- Variable and fixed subject follow-up
- Piecewise hazard rates, accruals, and dropouts
- Charts for predicting events/sample size, accrual and study duration
- Simulate non-proportional hazards

### New in 6.5:

- Go-No-Go Based on Surrogate Endpoints

### Note:

•Cytel also offers Proc East MONITOR as a SAS PROC to facilitate your usage of SAS to monitor trials designed using East SURVIVAL.

# East ADAPT / SURVADAPT

Incorporate unblinded sample size re-estimation rules

SUCCESSFUL  
OUTCOME:

Improve statistical power when results are 'promising'

ADAPT

Pre-Requisites:

East SEQUENTIAL

SURVADAPT

Pre-Requisites:

East SURVIVAL

Functions:

- Adaptive rules for increasing sample size, or other possibilities
- Methods include CHW, CDL, Müller-Schäfer
- Specific adaptive tools for survival (eg., adapt sample size and events)
- Müller-Schäfer Method for Interim Monitoring

***Unique to East:***

- Promising Zone Design based on unblinded interim data
- Adjusted unbiased point estimates, confidence Intervals, and p-values

New in 6.5:

- SSR for Non-Inferiority designs

Note:

- Cytel also offers Proc East MONITOR as a SAS PROC to facilitate your usage of SAS to monitor trials designed using East ADAPT and SURVADAPT.

# *Methodology*

# Traditional vs Adaptive for Confirmatory Trials

- **Traditional Design:**
  - Fix total sample size in advance
  - Monitoring accruing data for safety only
  - **One** final efficacy analysis at study end
- **Adaptive Design:**
  - Monitor accruing data for efficacy and safety
  - Possibly alter future course of study
  - Design changes can utilize unblinded data

# Types of Design Changes

- Stop early due to overwhelming efficacy
  - Group sequential efficacy boundaries
- Stop early due to inefficacy or harm
  - Group sequential futility boundaries
- Mid-course corrections to design assumptions
  - Unblinded sample size re-estimation
  - Dropping ineffective doses in multi-arm trials
- Changing goals
  - Biomarker-based population enrichment
  - Switching endpoints from non-inferiority to superiority

# Motivation for Mid-Course Sample Size Correction in Pivotal Trials

We don't know what  $\delta$  and  $\sigma$  to power the study for

- Prior experience limited to small pilot studies
- Improved standard of care dilutes treatment effect
- Powering for **smallest clinically important** effect expensive
- Better safety profile at interim might justify smaller  $\delta$
- Opportunity to combine internal and external data

If only  $\sigma$  is unknown, blinded SSR is recommended by FDA

# Why not design for the smallest clinically meaningful treatment effect?

Large effects are uncommon, but designing for very small clinically meaningful effects requires huge up-front investments that management will not approve. A strategy of staged investment is more practical

- **Unreliability of Pilot Studies:** Most large treatment effects emerge from small studies, and when additional trials are performed, the effect sizes typically become much smaller. Well-validated large effects are uncommon and pertain to nonfatal outcomes. *Pereira et. al., JAMA. 2012; 308(16): 1676-1684*
- **Milestone-Driven Investment:** Sunesis Pharmaceuticals to Implement One-Time Sample Size Increase to Phase 3 VALOR Trial in AML. DSMB Recommends Increase Following Single, Pre-Planned Interim Efficacy and Safety Analysis of VALOR; DSMB Recommendation Triggers \$25.0 Million Investment in Sunesis from Royalty Pharma. *Press Release, September 11, 2012. Sunesis Pharma, South San Francisco*

Received 12 December 2009, Accepted 8 September 2010 Published online 30 November 2010 in Wiley Online Library

(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/sim.4102

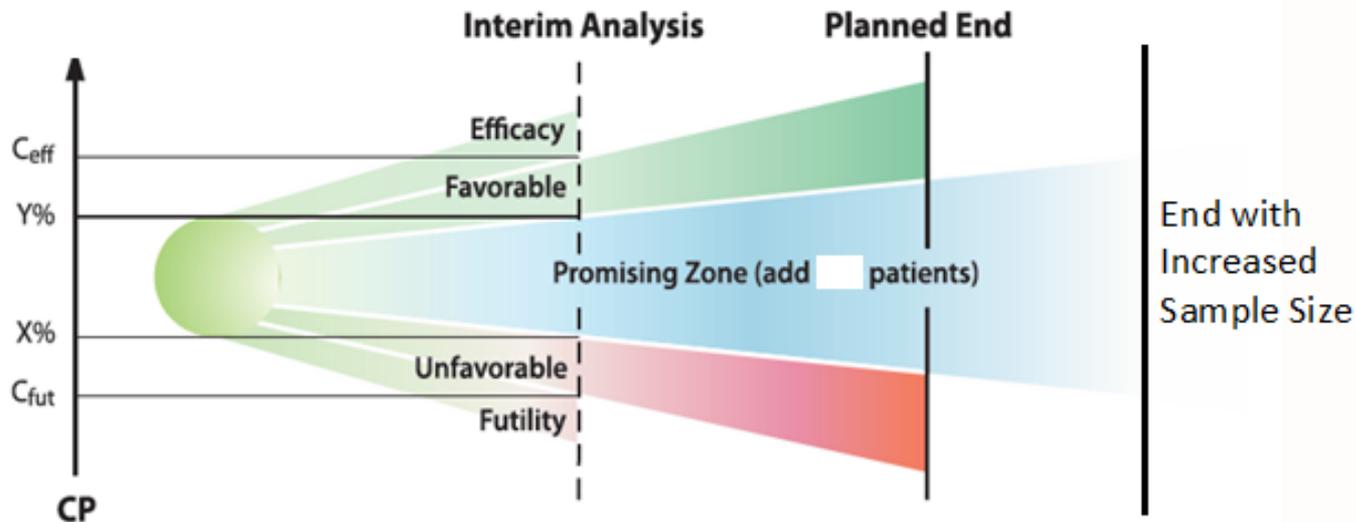
# Adaptive increase in sample size when interim results are promising: A practical guide with examples

Cyrus R. Mehta<sup>a,b,\*†</sup> and Stuart J. Pocock<sup>c</sup>

This paper discusses the benefits and limitations of adaptive sample size re-estimation for phase 3 confirmatory clinical trials. Comparisons are made with more traditional fixed sample and group sequential designs. It is seen that the real benefit of the adaptive approach arises through the ability to invest sample size resources into the trial in stages. The trial starts with a small up-front sample size commitment. Additional sample size resources are committed to the trial only if promising results are obtained at an interim analysis. This strategy is shown through examples of actual trials, one in neurology and one in cardiology, to be more advantageous than the fixed sample or group sequential approaches in certain settings. A major factor that has generated controversy and inhibited more widespread use of these methods has been their reliance on non-standard tests and *p*-values for preserving the type-1 error. If, however, the sample size is only increased when interim results are promising, one can dispense with these non-standard methods of inference. Therefore, in the spirit of making adaptive increases in trial size more widely appealing and readily implementable we here define those promising circumstances in which a conventional final inference can be performed while preserving the overall type-1 error. Methodological, regulatory and operational issues are examined. Copyright © 2010 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

**Keywords:** sample size re-estimation; two-stage designs; flexible clinical trials; conditional power; adaptive design; real examples

# ADAPT / SURVAdapt: Adaptive Sample Size Re-estimation



CP = Conditional power

The probability of success (statistical significance) at the end of the trial given current data trend

**Transparent, pre-specified plan to increase sample size only if interim analysis was in “promising zone”**

## *Case Study*

# Case Study: Metastatic Lung Cancer

Two arm, multicenter trial with second line therapy for metastatic non-small cell lung cancer

Primary endpoint is overall survival (OS)

Median for control arm is 8 months

Require 90% power to detect HR = 0.7 (median = 11.4 months on experimental arm)

One-sided level 0.025 test with one interim look for early efficacy or futility stopping

Design 24 month enrollment and 12 months additional follow-up

# Group Sequential Design

	Wbk2:Des2	Wbk2:Des3
Mnemonic	SU-2S-LRSD	SU-2S-LRSD
<b>Test Parameters</b>		
Design Type	Superiority	Superiority
No. of Looks	2	2
Test Type	1-Sided	1-Sided
Specified $\alpha$	0.025	0.025
Power	0.9	0.9
<b>Model Parameters</b>		
Allocation Ratio (nt/nc)	1	1
Hazard Ratio (Alt.)	0.7	0.77
Var (Log HR)	Null	Null
<b>Boundary Parameters</b>		
Spacing of Looks	Equal	Equal
Efficacy Boundary	LD (OF)	LD (OF)
<b>Accrual &amp; Dropout Parameters</b>		
Subjects are Followed	Until End of Study	Until End of Study
No. of Accrual Periods	1	1
No. of Dropout Pieces	0	0
<b>Sample Size</b>		
Maximum	416	760
Expected Under H0	415.864	759.763
Expected Under H1	399.146	728.269
<b>Events</b>		
Maximum	332	618
Expected Under H0	331.747	617.529
Expected Under H1	289.991	539.855
<b>Study Duration</b>		
Maximum	36	36
Expected Under H0	32.453	33.348
Expected Under H1	31.973	31.936
<b>Accrual Duration</b>		
Maximum	24	24
Expected Under H0	23.992	23.993
Expected Under H1	23.028	22.998

- Uncertainty about  $HR=0.7$ ;
- $HR = 0.77$  is still clinically meaningful but requires 760 patients and 618 events.
- Up-front commitment is impossible

# Adaptive Strategy

Design optimistically (HR=0.7; 332 events; 416 subjects)

One interim analysis after 50% information

- Stop if overwhelming evidence of efficacy ( $\widehat{HR} \leq 0.63$ )
- Stop if overwhelming evidence of futility ( $\widehat{HR} > 1.02$ )
- Increase number of events and sample size at the interim if interim results fall in a promising zone

Can define promising zone in terms of conditional power, or HR, or Z-statistic

Special CP calculator available in East

# The Promising Zone Design

Partition the interim outcome into three zones based on the estimated conditional power. For example:

- Unfavorable:  $CP < 35\%$  ; no change in design
- Promising:  $35\% \leq CP < 90\%$  ; increase resources
- Favorable:  $CP \geq 90\%$ ; no change in design

Use simulation to experiment with promising zones

Use simulation to experiment with sample size re-estimation rules

Use Cui, Hung, Wang (CHW), Chen, DeMets & Lan (CDL) or Mueller and Shaeffer (MS) methods to control type-1 error

# Adaptation Principles

Primary driver of power is number of events

FDA guidance recommends increase only, not decrease

Increase events by amount needed to achieve some target conditional power, subject to a cap

Compute sample size increase necessary to achieve the desired increase in events without undue prolongation of the trial

Complex relationship exists between increase in events, increase in sample size and study duration. Best evaluated by simulation

# Adaptive Simulation Worksheet

Number of Looks: 2

Simulation Parameters    Response Generation Info    Accrual / Dropout Info    Sample Size Re-estimation    Simulation Control Info

Use Adaptation Method  
 CHW     CDL

Adapt at: Look #    1

Max. # of Events if Adapt (multiplier; total #): 1.498    500

Max. Sample Size if Adapt (multiplier; total #): 1.498    1144

Upper Limit on Study Duration: 108

Target CP for Re-estimating # of Events: 0.9

Promising Zone Scale: Cond. Power    CP

Promising	Min. CP:	0.3
Zone:	Max. CP:	0.9

CP Computation Based on: Estimated HR

Accrual Rate After Adaptation: No Change

### Required Events

CP (Dsgn. Events, Est. HR)	Required Events
0.0	315
0.3	490
0.75	490
0.9	315
1.0	315

### Conditional Power

CP (Dsgn. Events, Est. HR)	Conditional Power
0.0	0.0
0.1	0.3
0.3	0.4
0.35	0.8
0.7	0.85
0.9	0.8
1.0	1.0

Reference HR: 0.77    Refresh Charts

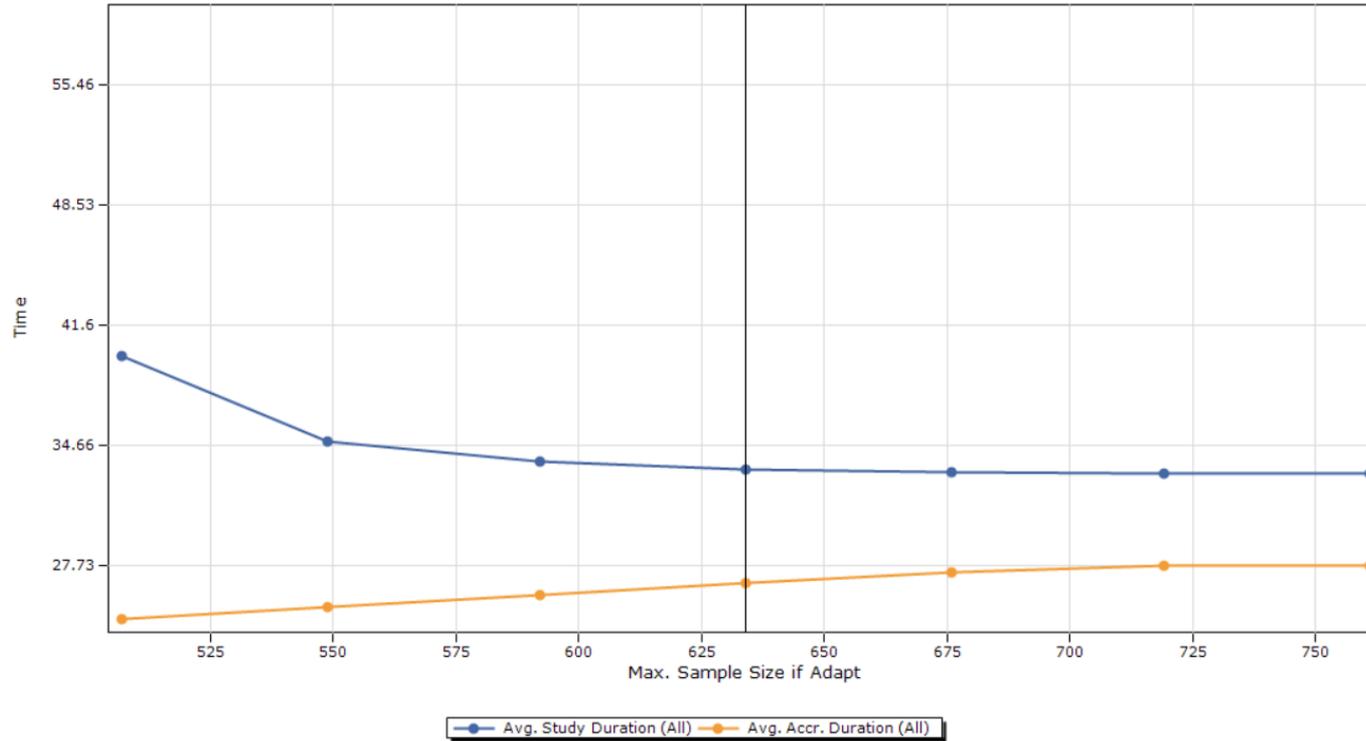
# Operating Characteristics

1. Simulations Under Pessimistic Scenario, HR = 0.77 (10,000 simulations)							
Zone	P(Zone)	Power		Duration (months)		SampSize	
		NonAdpt	Adapt	NonAdpt	Adapt	NonAdpt	Adapt
Unf	28%	34%	35%	35	35	419	419
Prom	32%	70%	85%	35	40	419	616
Fav	40%	91%	90%	35	35	419	419
Total	—	66%	71%	33	34	408	472

2. Simulations Under Optimistic Scenario, HR = 0.7 (10,000 simulations)							
Zone	P(Zone)	Power		Duration		SampSize	
		NonAdpt	Adapt	NonAdpt	Adapt	NonAdpt	Adapt
Unf	13%	62%	61%	36	35	419	419
Prom	27%	87%	97%	36	40	419	616
Fav	60%	97%	98%	36	35	419	419
Total	—	90%	92%	32	33	402	454

# Trade-off between Study duration and $n$

Study Duration and Accrual Duration



# Concluding Observations

It is believed that true HR is between 0.7 and 0.77

**Option 1:** Power the trial for HR=0.77 with aggressive early stopping boundaries

- Large up-front commitment is often an obstacle
- Aggressive stopping boundaries require spending more alpha at the interim
- Stopping a trial prematurely with aggressive boundaries is unlikely to alter medical practice
- Overruns can be problematic

**Option 2:** Power the trial for HR=0.7 and increase resources in promising zone

- Requires a lower up-front commitment
- Additional commitment only called forth if it is needed
- Compromise design: Better than non-adaptive trial powered at HR=0.7 but not as powerful (unconditionally) as the non-adaptive design powered at HR=0.77.

# References

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*East*

## Easy Access to the Adaptive Designs That Matter



Delivered by the  
Thought Leaders  
Behind the Methods

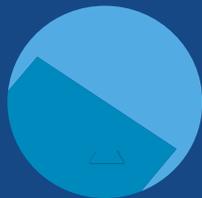


Software that is  
Faster & Easier  
to Use



Popular Fixed and  
Adaptive Designs  
at your Fingertips

# Global Products and Services



## Statistical Software

Industry standard for trial design, including CID adaptive (East, EOD)

Leader in exact statistical solutions (Xact: StatXact, LogXact, Procs)

Operations software (e.g. ACES, EnForeSys, FlexRandomizer)

All 25 top biopharma companies, the FDA, EMA & PMDA use our software



## Strategic Consulting

PhD statisticians expert in innovative design & complex statistical questions

Experts in Data Science, PK/PD, Enrolment & Event Forecasting, Portfolio/Program Optimization (NPV)



## Project-Based Services

Reliable Biometrics service provider delivering high quality, on time

Lead staff with over 15 years industry experience on average

Including biostatistics & programming, ISC, data management, PK/PD analysis, medical writing



## Functional Services Provision (FSP)

Creation of dedicated teams operating within/as an extension of the client's own biostatistics & programming, data management and PK/PD teams

Leader in offshoring of Biometrics competencies

*Q&A Session*

*Conclusion*

# Final Remarks

- The statistical methodology for adaptive designs is well established
- Operational and regulatory concerns are a greater barrier to implementation
  - Auditable processes for documenting who saw what documentation and when
  - How will knowledge of interim decision affect the investigator behavior?
  - Will FDA/EMA approve the design?
- Gradually these concerns are being resolved

# Upcoming Webinars

Topic	Date	Time	
<b>Adaptive Umbrella Trial Using MAMS Module</b>	Tuesday, April 14, 2020	11:00AM EDT   16:00 GMT	✓
<b>Phase 1 dose escalation trials with ESCALATE</b>	Wednesday, April 22, 2020	11:00AM EDT   16:00 GMT	✓
<b>Phase 2 Dose-finding Studies with MCP and Modelling Techniques</b>	Wednesday, April 29, 2020	11:00AM EDT   16:00 GMT	✓
<b>Conducting Sample Size Reassessment with Time-to-event Endpoints</b>	Wednesday, May 6, 2020	11:00AM EDT   16:00 GMT	✓
<b>Refocus your Enrollment to the Subpopulation of Interest with ENRICH</b>	Wednesday, May 13, 2020	11:00AM EDT   16:00 GMT	

Respond to survey in post-webinar thank you email to request certificate of attendance for today's webinar.

Recordings will be posted to [www.cytel.com](http://www.cytel.com).



# Thank you



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**Thank you!**