

2014

WELCOME!



ARCHITECTING GREAT EXPERIMENTS

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EXPERIMENT CONCEPTS

SIGNIFICANCE

The risk of encountering a false positive.

95% = out of 100 a/a tests, 5 will inaccurately report a difference.

POWER

The risk of encountering a false negative.

80% = out of 100 a/b tests, 20 winners will not be reported.

ONE-TAIL VS. TWO TAIL

One tail = is the variation better?

Two tail = is the variation better OR worse?

MDE

Minimum detectable effect

SAMPLE SIZE

How many subjects are in your experiment.



Always use a sample size calculator to calculate sample size before starting an a/b test.

bit.ly/VUBti8

SAMPLE SIZE CALCULATOR

bit.ly/SWR3YC

EXAMPLE

Absolute lowest MDE

CONVERSION RATE: 4%

MDE: 1%

POWER: 80%

SIGNIFICANCE: 5%

TAILS: ONE

2,972,435

Visitors per branch

EXAMPLE

Focus on time

1 month = 170,000 unique visitors

CONVERSION RATE: 4%

MDE: 6%

POWER: 80%

SIGNIFICANCE: 5%

TAILS: ONE

83,230

Visitors per branch

EXAMPLE

Small startup

1 month = 3,000 unique visitors

CONVERSION RATE: 4%

MDE: 45%

POWER: 80%

SIGNIFICANCE: 5%

TAILS: ONE

1,567

Visitors per branch



Sample size calculators tell you how many subjects, but not which subjects should be in your experiment.

SAMPLING

- can be really hard
- week day vs. weekend traffic
- campaign vs. organic traffic
- returning vs. new visitors

WHERE SHOULD I TEST?

EXAMPLE

E-commerce website

24/7 Customer Service (800) 927-7671

Help



Log In or Register

My Account

My Favorites



Shoes, Clothing, Bags, etc.

SEARCH 9

CLEARANCE SHOP NOW »





SEARCH BY: Size, Narrow Shoes, Wide Shoes, Popular Searches

SHOES CLOTHING BAGS & HANDBAGS AT HOME BEAUTY ACCESSORIES SHOP BY... WOMEN'S MEN'S KIDS' ALL DEPARTMENTS TO ALPHABETICAL BRAND INDEX # · A · B · C · D · E · F · G · H · I · J · K · L · M · N · O · P · Q · R · S · T · U · V · W · X · Y · Z

SHOP WOMEN'S

Clothing

Shoes

Sandals

Sneakers & Athletic Shoes

Dresses

SHOP MEN'S

Clothing

Shoes

Sneakers & Athletic Shoes

Sandals

Jeans

SHOP KIDS'

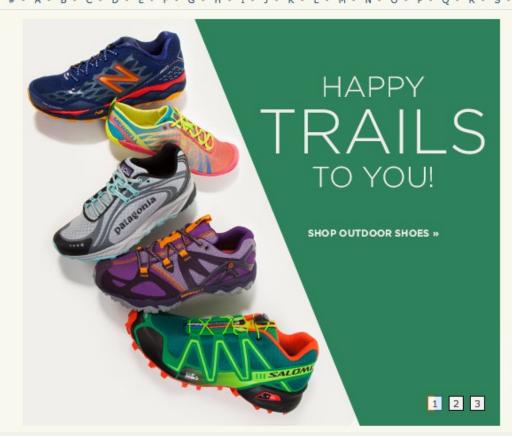
Girls' Clothing

Boys' Clothing

Girls' Shoes

Boys' Shoes

SHOP GIFT CARDS





SANDALS SHOP NOW »





HOMEPAGE ASSUMPTIONS

- 1. Lots of traffic
- 2. Relatively few conversions

Let's estimate:

- 2.5% conversion rate
- 100,000 monthly unique visitors

RUN EXPERIMENT FOR 1 MONTH (100K VISITORS) CONVERSION RATE: 2.5%

POWER: 80%

SIGNIFICANCE: 5%

TAILS: ONE

MDE: 10%

YOUR ORDER SUMMARY

YOUR ITEM PRICE QUANTITY PRICE

John Varvatos Commuter Cap Toe Derby

\$228.00 ONLY 3 LEFT! 1 \$228.00



SKU: #8413525 COLOR: CHARCOAL

SIZE: 12

WIDTH: D - MEDIUM

This item may become unavailable if someone else purchases it.

SUBTOTAL (1 ITEM): \$228.00

NEXT DAY SHIPPING: FREE

* TAX TO BE COLLECTED: \$0.00

STORE CREDIT FOR KYLE RUSH: -\$45.99

Remove

GRAND TOTAL: \$182.01

COMPLETE YOUR ORDER

By placing your order, you agree to Zappos.com's Privacy Policy and Terms of Use.

SUBMIT MY ORDER

Shipping and Returns Policy

CHECKOUT PAGE ASSUMPTIONS

- 1. Lower traffic
- 2. Relatively high conversion rate

Let's assume:

- 50% conversion rate
- 10,000 monthly unique visitors

RUN EXPERIMENT FOR 1 MONTH (10K VISITORS) CONVERSION RATE: 50%

POWER: 80%

SIGNIFICANCE: 5%

TAILS: ONE

MDE: 5%



Start by focusing a/b tests on the last step in your conversion funnel.

WHAT SHOULD I TEST?

Depends on MDE and time.

LANDING PAGE OPTIMIZATION

(MOZCON 2013)

bit.ly/1wkpgye

GOING BEYOND THE LOW HANGING FRUIT

(CONVERSION CONFERENCE 2014)

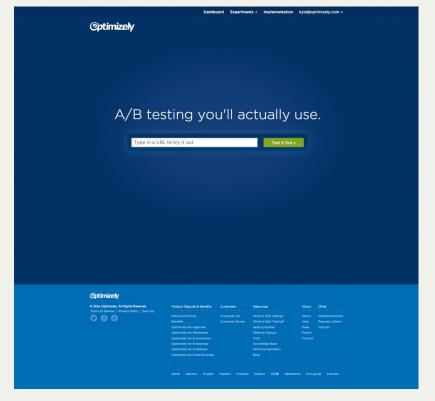
bit.ly/1kU4sZ0

BE FEARLESS

EXPERIMENT

Terse vs verbose





RESULT

+31% LEADS
99.9% CONFIDENCE

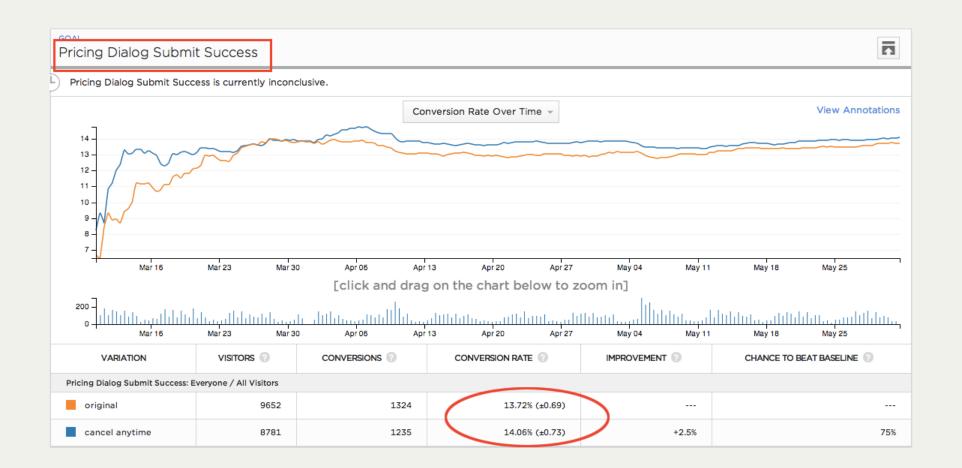
BEFORE YOU TEST

GOALS

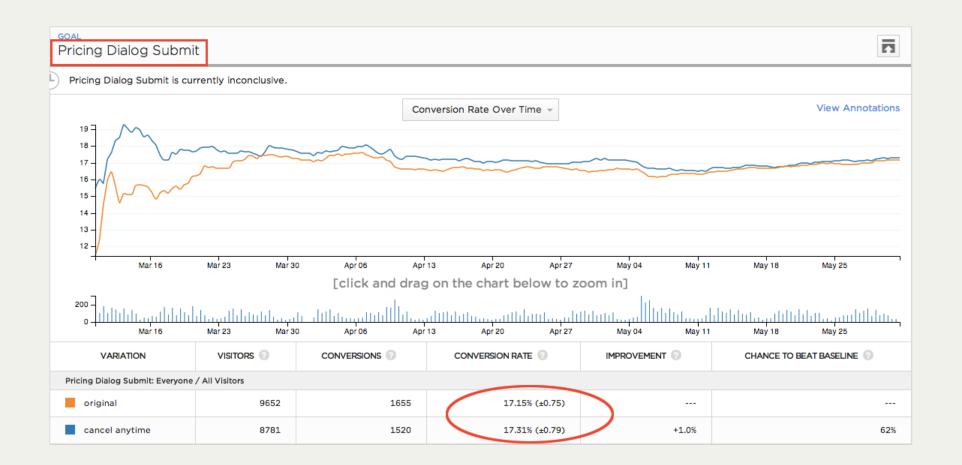
- Measure as many goals as possible
 - micro: form field errors, time on page
 - macro: purchase, revenue
- Choose a primary goal
- Don't forget about down the funnel goals
 - Repeat purchase
 - Save payment information

EXAMPLE

Success vs. submit



13.72% CONVERSION RATE



17.15% CONVERSION RATE

25% DIFFERENCE



Measure as many goals as possible for every experiment.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- No bugs in the variation
- No bugs in the control
- Tracking works correctly

ELIMINATING BIAS

Double blind experiments

EXPERIMENT BRIEF

- Hypothesis
- Audience description
- Goals tracked
- Stopping conditions
- Screenshots
- QA summary

EXPERIMENT BRIEF TEMPLATE

bit.ly/1nvNJjx

AFTER YOU TEST

STATISTICAL TIE

Not enough data to conclude that there is a difference.

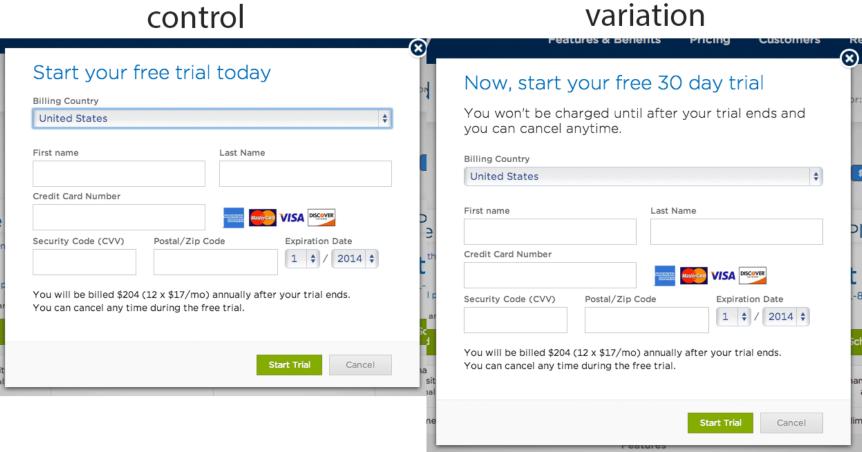


The overwhelming majority of experiments results are a statistical tie.

EXAMPLE

Statistical tie

control



RESULT

VARIATIONS	VISITORS	CONVERSIONS	CONVERSION RATE	IMPROVEMENT	CHANCE TO BEAT BASELINE
cancel anytime	10,239	1,469	14.3% (±0.68%)	+2.7%	78.4%
original BASELINE	11,165	1,560	14.0% (±0.64%)		

RETESTING

EXAMPLE

Retesting

FIRST TEST

Secure					
How much would you like to donate today?					
Select amount					
15 25 50					
100 250 500					
1,000 Other amount					
• CONTINUE					

+36% revenue

SECOND TEST

a Secure a Secure					
How much would you like to donate today?	How much would you like to donate today?				
Select amount	Select amount				
\$15 \$25 \$50	15 25 50				
\$100 \$250 \$500	100 250 500				
\$1,000 Other amount	1,000 Other amount				
• CONTINUE	• CONTINUE				

statistical tie

THIRD TEST

Secure					
How much would you like to donate today?					
Select amount					
15 25 50					
100 250 500					
1,000 Other amount					
• CONTINUE					

Statistical tie

SHARE YOUR RESULTS



Always, always record detailed experiment results in an archive.

EXPERIMENT ARCHIVE

- experiment date
- audience/url
- screenshots
- hypothesis
- results
- link to experiment
- link to result csv

EXPERIMENT ARCHIVE TEMPLATE

bit.ly/1q9tRWI





THANK YOU! SESSION Q&A



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