# EXECUTING A DOE: A FEW WAYS TO KILL AN EXPERIMENT

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#### Why Should You Care About DOE's?

- An academic reason
  - Better than COST approach
- 4 other compelling reasons
  - Directly applicable to your career
  - Can make you a superstar
  - Theory not difficult
  - Takes creativity and imagination

#### Let's Talk Muffins

- Non-trivial topic: chemistry is involved
- Ingredients are easily available, low cost
- Can be done in your kitchen
- Lots of y-variables
- Lots of potential disturbances



# Choosing a Good Recipe

#### **Dry Ingredients**

1 1/3 C flour
3 tsp. baking powder
4 tsp salt
5 C chocolate chips

#### Wet Ingredients

½ C sugar
1 egg
1 C milk
1/3 C vegetable oil

#### **Directions**

Mix dry ingredients and chocolate chips. Combine sugar with oil. Then add egg & milk. Stir wet ingredients into flour mixture. Do not beat.

Bake @ 375° for 20-25 min.



#### A Few Good Factors

□ Flour type







Baking powder amount

Vegetable oil amount



■ Mixing time



### Make it Feasible, Make it Work

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### Make it Feasible, Make it Work

- 1/2 fraction in 4 factors is 8 batches of muffins that's going to take way too long!
- Ok, we'll make 2 batches at a time...





#### Consider Disturbances

#### □ Pour Order & Pan Location











### Randomize!

| Run | Flour Type | Baking Power | Mixing Time | Operator | Egg Size | Oven Location |            | P1 | P2 | Р3 | P4 | P5 |
|-----|------------|--------------|-------------|----------|----------|---------------|------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1   |            |              |             |          |          | Front         | Pour Order | 3  | 5  | 1  | 2  | 4  |
| 2   |            |              |             |          |          | Back          | Pour Order | 4  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 5  |
| 3   |            |              | Back of     | Oven     |          | Back          | Pour Order | 2  | 3  | 5  | 1  | 4  |
| 4   |            | 1 2          | 3 4         | 5        |          | Front         | Pour Order | 1  | 4  | 5  | 2  | 3  |
| 5   |            | 1 2          | 3 4         | 5        |          | Back          | Pour Order | 4  | 2  | 5  | 1  | 3  |
| 6   | _          |              |             |          |          | Front         | Pour Order | 3  | 5  | 4  | 1  | 2  |
| 7   |            |              |             |          |          | Back          | Pour Order | 5  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 4  |
| 8   |            |              |             |          |          | Front         | Pour Order | 5  | 2  | 4  | 3  | 1  |

# Make it Foolproof (or you'll feel like a fool later)



## Luck is the Residue of Preparation

- Make a test batch first if you can this will highlight disturbances you haven't thought of, and any organizational issues.
- Pre-measure as many ingredients as possible.



# Surviving Murphy's Law

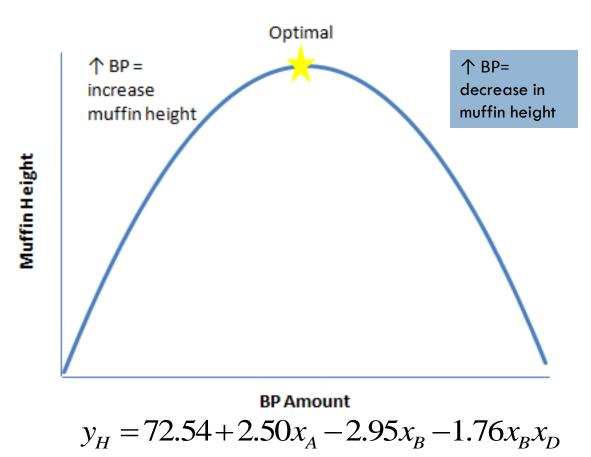
What else could go wrong?

If your data collection methods are well organized, you'll be able to keep track of the unexpected.

□ Final Thought: Make it fun!



## Surprises in the Data



 $\uparrow$  muffin height = use bread flour +  $\downarrow$  baking powder +  $\uparrow$  mixing time