

On Mon, 13 Feb 2006, Jeff Scargle wrote:

- > The details are pretty technical, and I would value an expert opinion.
- > Peter Freeman may be interested in being accused of "inappropriate usage" in a slide (13) labeled "Incorrect Practice."
- > Peter, can you comment and/or tell me what the reference Freeman et al. (1999) is? And perhaps "al" includes others in this group?

I believe this is OK, in that the reference in question stated that the true sampling distribution of the MLR test statistic is not χ^2 when one is testing for the presence of a line whose centroid energy is a priori unknown (since given the null, centroid energies are sampled uniformly over a bandpass; they are not sampled from a Gaussian [unless you want to argue that a uniform distribution is a Gaussian of infinite width :)).

So I think we were being credited with being on the right side of the issue, though that is not completely clear in print.

Freeman et al. 1999, ApJ, 524, 753

And the et al. = the Don Lamb group (Chicago) + the Ginga satellite team (LANL/Japan).

pef