Simpson’s Paradox.

Imbalances.

**Acne: Imbalance:** Mild Acne is apparently harder to cure. (I don’t know why. Here’s a thought: Perhaps because it has to be completely eliminated in order to call it “cured” where severe acne only has to be made quite a bit better to be called “cured.”) Mostly the old treatment was given to those with severe acne and mostly the new treatment was given to those with mild acne. That “imbalance” gave the old treatment an unfair advantage in the overall comparison. Since a person will know whether they have severe acne or mild acne before they start the treatment, I recommend that they use the individual group comparisons. So this is a case of Simpson’s Paradox where we would base our actions on the individual group comparisons.

**Basketball: Imbalance:** It seems that it was easier to make the baskets in the second half than the first half. I don’t know why and certainly the only way anyone really thinks about scoring in basketball is by the whole game. So this is a case of Simpson’s Paradox where we would draw our final conclusions from the overall comparison.

**Graduate Admissions: Imbalance:** Some departments were MUCH easier to be admitted to than others. In the three programs that were hardest to be admitted to, the numbers of men and women applicants were fairly similar. But in the two programs that were very strongly the easiest to be admitted to, there were MANY more men who applied so it is not surprising that many more men were admitted. This is an example of Simpson’s Paradox where we should draw our conclusions from the separate comparisons than from the overall comparison. This is not evidence that the university is discriminating against women.