

Z_LINEAR_K (Version 5.2)

The program (options 1 and 2) provides the asymptotical inferences (z-statistics or confidence intervals CI) for the parameters $L = \sum \beta_i p_i$ (a lineal function of K independent proportions with the β_i knows) or $R = p_2/p_1$ (the relative risk), by means of the optimal procedures and the score procedure. The key are:

- $x_i \sim K$ independent binomials (n_i, p_i);
- Coefficients β_i : $B(+) = \sum_{\beta_i > 0} \beta_i$, $B(-) = \sum_{\beta_i < 0} \beta_i$, $B = B(+) + B(-)$
- Parameter of interest: L (option 1) or R (option 2).
- TEST: $H: L = \lambda$ vs. $K: L \neq \lambda$ (λ is know) or $H: R = \rho$ vs. $K: R \neq \rho$ (error α).
- CI: $L1 \leq L \leq L2$ or $R1 \leq R \leq R2$ (confidence $1-\alpha$).
- In some cases the results of the one-tailed test and CI are also provided, as the optimal methods may differ from those in the two-tailed case.

Additionally (option 3), the programme also determines the contrast $\{\beta_{i0}\}$ ($\sum \beta_{i0} = 0$) that makes the maximum of the score statistic $Z^2(\lambda = 0)$ (see bellow) which provides a homogeneity test for $2 \times K$ tables alternative to the classical Pearson chi-squared. See paper (8).

SCORE TEST

The score z-statistics for $H: L = \lambda$ without continuity correction is:

$$Z(\lambda) = \frac{\bar{L} - \lambda}{\sqrt{\sum \beta_i^2 \hat{p}_i \hat{q}_i / n_i}}$$

where $\bar{L} = \sum \beta_i \bar{p}_i$, $\bar{p}_i = x_i / n_i$, $\hat{q}_i = 1 - \hat{p}_i$ and \hat{p}_i (= pi_LH in the output of the program) is the maximum likelihood estimator of p_i under H . The score z-statistics with a continuity correction (cc) is:

$$Z_c(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |\bar{L} - \lambda| \leq c \\ \left[\text{Sign}(\bar{L} - \lambda) \right] \frac{|\bar{L} - \lambda| - c}{\sqrt{\sum \beta_i^2 \hat{p}_i \hat{q}_i / n_i}} & \text{if } |\bar{L} - \lambda| > c \end{cases} \quad \text{where } c = \frac{B(+)-B(-)}{2 \left\{ \prod (n_i + 1) - 1 \right\}}$$

When the test is for $H: R = \rho$, the expressions above are valid if they are changed β_2 for 1, β_1 for $-\rho$ and λ for 0. Finally, the test conclude K if $|Z(\lambda)|$ (or $|Z_c(\lambda)|$) $\geq z_{\alpha/2}$ (the $100 \times (1-\alpha/2)$ th percentile of the standard normal distribution). See paper (1).

SCORE CI

The CI for L (or R) is obtained to solve in λ (or ρ): $|Z(\lambda)| = z_{\alpha/2}$ or $|Z_c(\lambda)| = z_{\alpha/2}$.

p-VALUES

The program also provides the p -value of the test when the same makes sense (i.e. when the statistic is not obtained by increasing the data in a quantity that depends on the error α).

REST OF THE TEST AND CI

It comes in a similar way, but to other definitions of the statistic Z (see references). Equivalences between the outputs of the program and methods of the paper in references are

indicated in the following table:

<i>Case</i>	<i>Output program</i>	<i>Method in the paper</i>
$K \geq 3$ Parameter L	Score (without cc)	S0 in (2)
	Score (with cc)	S0c in (2)
	Adjusted Wald	W3 in (2)
	Peskun	P0 in (2)
$K = 2$ and parameter L with $\beta_1 \neq -\beta_2$	Score (without cc)	S0 in (3)
	Score (with cc)	S0c in (3)
	Adjusted Wald (a)	W2 in (3)
	Adjusted Wald (b)	W4 in (3)
	Adjusted likelihood ratio	LR1 in (7)
$K = 2$ and parameter L with $\beta_1 = -\beta_2$ (difference of proportion)	Test for lambda = 0	
	Score (without cc)	Two-tailed: ZE0 in (6) One-tailed: $\tilde{Z}E0$ in (11)
	Score (with cc)	Two-tailed: ZE0c in (6) One-tailed: $\tilde{Z}W2$ in (11)
	Adjusted Score (without cc)	Two-tailed: ZE3 in (6)
	Adjusted Score (with cc)	Two-tailed: ZE3c in (6)
	Adjusted Wald (without cc)	Two-tailed: ZW4 in (11)
	Adjusted Wald (with cc)	One-tailed: $\tilde{Z}W2$ in (11)
	Adjusted Arc Sine (a) (with cc)	Two-tailed: $\tilde{A}E1$ in (11) One-tailed: $\tilde{A}E5$ in (11)
	Test for lambda \neq 0 or CI for L	
	Score (without cc)	Two-tailed: ZE0 in (6) One-tailed: ZE0 in (11)
	Score (with cc)	Two-tailed: ZE0c in (6) One-tailed: $\tilde{Z}E0$ in (11)
	Adjusted Arc Sine (a)	Two-tailed: AE1 in (6)
	Adjusted Arc Sine (a) (with cc)	One-tailed: $\tilde{A}E5$ in (11)
	Adjusted Arc Sine (b)	Two-tailed: AL1 in (7)
	Adjusted Wald	Two-tailed: ZW4 in (6)
	Peskun (b)	One-tailed: ZP'0 in (11)
	Peskun (a)	One-tailed: ZP0 in (11)
$K = 2$ and parameter R (relative risk)	Test for rho = 1	
	Score (without cc)	ZE0 in (5) and (12)
	Score (with cc)	ZE0c in (5)
	Adjusted Score (without cc)	ZE3 in (5)
	Adjusted Score (with cc)	ZE3c in (5)
	Adjusted score approx.	ZA1 in (5) and (12)
	Adjusted log transfor.	LW2 in (5) and (12)
	Peskun	ZP0 in (5) and (12)
	Adjusted score Wald	ZW2 in (5) and (12)
	Test for rho \neq 1 and CI for R	
	Score (without cc)	ZE0 in (5) and (12)
	Adjusted score approx.	ZA1 in (5) and (12)
	Adjusted Wald	ZW4 in (5)
	Adjusted log transfor. Log transfor.	Two-tailed: LW1 in (5) One-tailed: LW0 in (12)
	Adjusted_1 arc sin	AE1 in (5)
	Adjusted_2 arc sin	AE2 in (5)

Case	Output program	Method in the paper
	Peskun	ZP0 in (5) and (12)
	Adjusted_5 arc sin	AE5 in (5) and (12)
$K = 1$ Parameter L (one proportion)	Test or CI for L	
	Score (without cc)	Two-tailed: S0 in (4) One-tailed: S0 in (10)
	Score (with cc)	Two-tailed: S0c in (4) One-tailed: S0c in (10)
	Adjusted Arc Sine (a)	Two-tailed: A1 in (4)
	Adjusted Wald	Two-tailed: W2 in (4) One-tailed: W5 in (10)
	Modified Score	Two-tailed: MS in (9)

References

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- (9) Martín Andrés, A. and Álvarez Hernández, M. (2016). Comment on “An improved score interval with a modified midpoint for a binomial proportion”. *J. Stat. Comput. Simul.* 86 (2), 388-393. DOI: 10.1080/00949655.2015.1015128.
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- (11) Álvarez Hernández, M., Martín Andrés, A. and Herranz Tejedor, I. (2018). One-tailed asymptotic inferences for the difference of proportions: analysis of 97 methods of inference. *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics* 28 (6), 1090–1104, DOI: 10.1080/10543406.2018.1452028.
- (12) Martín Andrés, A., Álvarez Hernández, M. and Herranz Tejedor, I. (2022). One-sided asymptotic inferences for the relative risk: comparison of 63 inference methods. *Communications in Statistics – Theory and Methods.* 51 (5), 1330-1348. DOI: 10.1080/03610926.2020.1760299.