

Exercices 2

Computing descriptive statistics from a detection experiment

In a signal detection experiment, a faint stimulus (e.g. a faint sound or a faint visual target) is presented or not at each trial and the participant must indicate whether he has perceived it or not. There are four possible outcomes for each trial:

1. A *hit* is when the participant correctly detects the target.
2. A *miss* is when the target was there but the participant did not detect it.
3. A *false alarm* is when the participant reports the presence of the target when it was not actually there.
4. A *correct rejection* is when the participant correctly reports that the target was not present.

One defines;

- The *hit rate*, equal to $\#hits / (\#hits + \#misses)$
 - The *False alarm rate*, equal to $\#false\ alarms / (\#false\ alarms + \#correct\ rejections)$
1. Let us first suppose that the data from a participant is represented as a string. This string represents a series of trials, each trial being represented by two characters indicating the trial type (1=target present, 0=target absent) and the participant's response (Y=target perceived, N=No target perceived). For example:

data = "oY,oN,1Y,1Y,oN,oN,oY,1Y,1Y"

Write a function that, given such a string, returns the Hit rate and the False rate (hint: use the function `split()`)

2. Suppose the results from different participants are stored in different files `subj*.dat` (download)

Write a script that computes the hit rates and false alarms for each subject, and displays the group averages and standard deviations.

3. use `matplotlib.pyplot.plot` to display each participant as a dot on a graphics with False alarm rate on the X-axis and Hit Rate on the Y-axis.

Read the section on reading comma separated value (‘.csv’) files from <http://automatetheboringstuff.com/chapter14/>

google ngrams

- Read Michel, Jean-Baptiste, Yuan Kui Shen, Aviva P. Aiden, Adrian Veres, Matthew K. Gray, The Google Books Team, Joseph P. Pickett, et al. 2010. “Quantitative Analysis of Culture Using Millions of Digitized Books.” *Science*, December. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1199644>. (use scholar.google.com to find a pdf copy)
- Go to the ngram viewer <https://books.google.com/ngrams>.
- At the bottom of the page, there is a message “Raw data is available for download here”. Follow the “here” link. download the 1-grams file ‘z’ for the dataset “English Version 20120701”. Uncompress it (it is in the .gzip format). It is a text file listing words starting with a ‘z’.

Zipfian