

MATH 341 HW 3

Isaac Boaz

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Problem 4

Measuring effectiveness of a treatment.

- RR : Relative Risk
- ARR : Absolute Risk Reduction
- T : Treatment Group $\implies \bar{T}$: Control Group
- B : 'Bad Outcome'

a) $RR = P(B|T)/P(B|\bar{T})$

RR should be > 1 if the treatment increases chances of harm, and < 1 if it reduces the chances of harm. In this instance, the numerator represents the number of people harmed in total, with the treatment group

b) $ARR = P(B|\bar{T}) - P(B|T)$

As the paper explains how $P(B|\bar{T})$

c) Is it possible to have a situation where $RR \approx 0$, and $ARR \approx 0$?

Consider a "Rare disease", where

$$P(B|\bar{T}) = 0.001$$

$$P(B|T) = (\text{smaller than above})$$

$$ARR = P(B|\bar{T}) - P(B|T)$$

d) Show that $P(B|\bar{T}) = \frac{ARR}{1-RR}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{ARR}{1-RR} &= \frac{P(B|\bar{T}) - P(B|T)}{1 - \left[\frac{P(B|T)}{P(B|\bar{T})}\right]} \\ &= \frac{P(B|\bar{T})}{P(B|\bar{T})} \cdot \frac{P(B|\bar{T}) - P(B|T)}{1 - \left[\frac{P(B|T)}{P(B|\bar{T})}\right]} \end{aligned}$$