

# Supplementary Material of “Optimal allocation strategies in platform trials”

## Optimisation of the sum of variances

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In[ ]:= subst = {n11 → r1 * (1 - p01) * N, n01 → r1 * p01 * N,  
               n12 → r2 * N - n02 - n22, n03 → r3 * p03 * N, n23 → r3 * (1 - p03) * N};  
substp = {n12 → r2 * N * p12, n22 → r2 * N * p22, n02 → r2 * N * p02, r3 → 1 - r1 - r2};  
  
In[ ]:= term1 =  
  FullSimplify[( (n11 * n01 / (n11 + n01)) + (n12 * n02 / (n12 + n02))) / N /. subst /. substp]  
term2 =  
  FullSimplify[(n22 * n02 / (n22 + n02) / N) + (n23 * n03 / (n23 + n03) / N) /. subst /. substp]  
  
Out[ ]:= - ( (-1 + p01) p01 r1) +  $\frac{p02 (-1 + p02 + p22) r2}{-1 + p22}$   
  
Out[ ]:=  $\frac{(-1 + p03) p03 (p02 + p22) (-1 + r1) + (-1 + p03) p03 p22 r2 + p02 ((-1 + p03) p03 + p22) r2}{p02 + p22}$   
  
In[ ]:= f[p02_, p22_, p01_, p03_, r2_] := FullSimplify[term1 + term2]  
  
In[ ]:= (*Set constraints*)  
constraints = 0 ≤ p02 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p22 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p01 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p03 ≤ 1 && r2 > 0 && r1 > 0  
(*Calculate the derivatives*)  
dfdp02 = D[f[p02, p22, p01, p03, r2], p02]  
dfdp22 = D[f[p02, p22, p01, p03, r2], p22]  
dfdp01 = D[f[p02, p22, p01, p03, r2], p01]  
dfdp03 = D[f[p02, p22, p01, p03, r2], p03]  
  
Out[ ]:= 0 ≤ p02 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p22 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p01 ≤ 1 && 0 ≤ p03 ≤ 1 && r2 > 0 && r1 > 0  
  
Out[ ]:=  $\frac{p02 r2}{-1 + p22} + \frac{(-1 + p02 + p22) r2}{-1 + p22} + \frac{(-1 + p03) p03 (-1 + r1) + ((-1 + p03) p03 + p22) r2}{p02 + p22} -$   
 $\frac{(-1 + p03) p03 (p02 + p22) (-1 + r1) + (-1 + p03) p03 p22 r2 + p02 ((-1 + p03) p03 + p22) r2}{(p02 + p22)^2}$   
  
Out[ ]:=  $\frac{p02 r2}{-1 + p22} - \frac{p02 (-1 + p02 + p22) r2}{(-1 + p22)^2} + \frac{(-1 + p03) p03 (-1 + r1) + p02 r2 + (-1 + p03) p03 r2}{p02 + p22} -$   
 $\frac{(-1 + p03) p03 (p02 + p22) (-1 + r1) + (-1 + p03) p03 p22 r2 + p02 ((-1 + p03) p03 + p22) r2}{(p02 + p22)^2}$   
  
Out[ ]:= - ((-1 + p01) r1) - p01 r1  
  
Out[ ]:=  $\frac{1}{p02 + p22} ((-1 + p03) (p02 + p22) (-1 + r1) +$   
 $p03 (p02 + p22) (-1 + r1) + p02 (-1 + 2 p03) r2 + (-1 + p03) p22 r2 + p03 p22 r2)$   
  
In[ ]:= dfdp02s = Simplify[dfdp02]  
  
Out[ ]:=  $\frac{(2 p02^3 + 2 (-1 + p22) p22^2 + 2 p02 p22 (-1 + 2 p22) + p02^2 (-1 + 5 p22)) r2}{(-1 + p22) (p02 + p22)^2}$ 
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In[ ]:= dfdp22s = Simplify[dfdp22]
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$$\text{Out[ ]} = -\frac{p02^2 (1 + p02) (-1 + p02 + 2 p22) r2}{(-1 + p22)^2 (p02 + p22)^2}$$

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In[ ]:= dfdp01s = Simplify[dfdp01]
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$$\text{Out[ ]} = r1 - 2 p01 r1$$

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In[ ]:= dfdp03s = Simplify[dfdp03]
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$$\text{Out[ ]} = (-1 + 2 p03) (-1 + r1 + r2)$$

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In[ ]:= (*Solve for critical points*)
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criticalPoints = NSolve[
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{dfdp02s == 0, dfdp22s == 0, dfdp01s == 0, dfdp03s == 0, constraints}, {p02, p22, p01, p03}]
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$$\text{Out[ ]} = \left\{ \left\{ p02 \rightarrow 0.414214 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, p22 \rightarrow 0.292893 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. p01 \rightarrow 0.5 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, p03 \rightarrow \frac{-1. + r1 + r2}{-2. + 2. r1 + 2. r2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0 \right\} \right\}$$

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In[ ]:= (*Evaluate the function at critical points*)
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min = MinimalBy[criticalPoints, f[p02, p22, r2] /. # &]
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$$\text{Out[ ]} = \left\{ \left\{ p02 \rightarrow 0.414214 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, p22 \rightarrow 0.292893 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. p01 \rightarrow 0.5 \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, p03 \rightarrow \frac{-1. + r1 + r2}{-2. + 2. r1 + 2. r2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0 \right\} \right\}$$

```
In[ ]:= Solve[{dfdp02s == 0, dfdp22s == 0, dfdp01s == 0, dfdp03s == 0, constraints}, {p02, p22, p01, p03}]
```

$$\text{Out[ ]} = \left\{ \left\{ p02 \rightarrow -1 + \sqrt{2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, \right. \right. \\ p22 \rightarrow \frac{-(-1 + \sqrt{2})^2 r2 + (-1 + \sqrt{2})^4 r2}{-2(-1 + \sqrt{2})^2 r2 - 2(-1 + \sqrt{2})^3 r2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, \\ \left. \left. p01 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0, p03 \rightarrow \frac{-1 + r1 + r2}{-2 + 2 r1 + 2 r2} \text{ if } r2 > 0 \&\& r1 > 0 \right\} \right\}$$