- Sample size determination for Bayesian testing of informative hypothesis in linear
- regression models
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Abstract

It is a tradition that goes back to Jacob Cohen to calculate the sample size before 10 collecting data. The most commonly asked question is: "How many subjects do we need to 11 obtain a significant result if we use the p-value to evaluate the hypothesis if an effect size 12 exists?" In the Bayesian framework, we may want to know how many subjects are needed 13 to get convincing evidence if we use the Bayes factor to evaluate the hypothesis. This 14 paper proposes a solution to the above question by reaching two goals: firstly, the size of 15 the Bayes factor reaches a given threshold, and secondly the probability that the Bayes 16 factor exceeds the given threshold reaches a required value. Researchers can express their 17 expectations through the order or the sign hypothesis of the parameters in a linear 18 regression model. For example, the researchers may expect the regression coefficient to be $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$, which is an order constrained hypothesis; or the researchers may expect a regression coefficient $\beta_1 > 0$, which is a sign hypothesis. The greatest advantage of using a 21 specific hypothesis is that the sample size required is reduced compared to an 22 unconstrained hypothesis to achieve the same probability that the Bayes factor exceeds some threshold. This article provides sample size tables for the null hypothesis, order hypothesis, sign hypothesis, complement hypothesis, and unconstrained hypothesis. To 25 enhance the applicability, an R package is developed via a Monte Carlo simulation, which 26 can facilitate psychologists while planning the sample size even if they do not have any 27 statistical programming background. 28

Keywords: Bayes Factor, Informative Hypothesis, Multiple Linear Regression, Sample
Size Determination, SSDbain

Sample size determination for Bayesian testing of informative hypothesis in linear regression models

33 Introduction

Sample size determination is a crucial step in the design of a study. If the sample size is 34 insufficient, then the study will not be able to draw valid conclusions. Conversely, if the 35 sample size is much larger than required, the study will become expensive, time-consuming 36 and ethically unacceptable. When the required sample size cannot be achieved to 37 demonstrate convincing results, the researchers may consider not going ahead with this 38 study to save money and efforts. In most universities, sample size determination and 39 statistical power analysis are increasingly becoming a requirement for most research proposals, applications for ethical clearance and journal articles. Based on Cohen's 41 research (Cohen, 1988, 1992), software for sample size calculation and power analysis, such as G*Power (Faul et al., 2009; Faul et al., 2007; Mayr et al., 2007), nQuery Advisor (Elashoff, 2007) and PASS (Hintze, 2011) has been developed. Through these software the researcher can obtain a sample size plan easily. The multiple linear model is one of the most often used models in the social and behavioral sciences. The multiple linear regression is widely used to evaluate how a response variable (Y) is related to a set of predictors (X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_K) . Suppose that a group of researchers wants to investigate the relationship between the response variable *Income* and two predictor variables Intelligence (IQ) and Socio-Economic Status (SES) using multiple linear regression. The regression coefficient corresponding to IQ is denoted as β_1 , and the 51 regression coefficient corresponding to SES is denoted as β_2 . The hypothesis of interest for the study is that the predictor of IQ has a stronger effect than SES on the response 53 variable *Income*. This hypothesis can be expressed using notation as H_1 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2$. To demonstrate this order relationship, the researchers want to detect a coefficient of 55 determination, for instance, $R^2 = 0.13$, where R^2 is the proportion of the variance in the

- 57 dependent variable that is explained by the independent variable(s). Sample-size tables in
- the framework of null-hypothesis significance testing (NHST) based on the F-test show
- that in the case of two predictors, $R^2 = 0.13$, and a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$, 67
- subjects are necessary to obtain a power of 0.80 if the null hypothesis H_0 : $\beta_1=\beta_2=0$ is
- compared with the unconstrained hypothesis H_a : β_1 , β_2 . However, the expected ordering of
- the means $(\beta_1 > \beta_2)$ is completely ignored in NHST.
- 63 NHST has been harshly criticized in numerous articles in recent years although it is the
- 64 most commonly used method for statistical hypothesis testing. Among them, there are
- 65 three crucial points:
- ₆₆ 1) The p-value derived from NHST is a measure of evidence against the null hypothesis H_0
- 67 (Hurlbert & Lombardi, 2009). What's more, it exaggerates the evidence against the null
- hypothesis H_0 (Berger, 1986; Berger & Sellke, 1987). That is, the p-value makes it
- relatively easy to obtain statistically significant findings. For example, if p-values of
- $0.05, 0.01, \text{ and } 0.001 \text{ are considered, the posterior probabilities of the null, } P(H_0|x), \text{ for } P(H_0|x)$
- sample size N = 50 are 0.52, 0.22, and 0.034, respectively, which indicate these
- discrepancies between p-value and posterior probability are pronounced.
- α 2) A significance level α of 0.05 typically reduces NHST to a binary decision rule. That is,
- the null hypothesis is rejected if the p-value is smaller than 0.05, and not rejected it if it
- is above 0.05 (Harlow et al., 2016; Nickerson, 2000; Wagenmakers, 2007). This leads to
- phenomena such as publication bias (Ioannidis, 2005; Simmons et al., 2011; Van Assen
- et al., 2014), and questionable research practices (Fanelli, 2009; Masicampo & Lalande,
- ⁷⁸ 2012; Wicherts et al., 2016), which both contributed to the replication crisis (Open
- Science Collaboration, 2015);
- 3) In practical applications, the null hypothesis is never exactly true. Therefore it is
- always rejected as the number of observations becomes large. (Cohen, 1994; Raftery,
- 82 1995; Royall, 1997).

- An alternative that has gained notable attention over the past years is Bayesian hypothesis
- testing using the Bayes factor (Lee & Wagenmakers, 2014; Van de Schoot et al., 2017;
- Vandekerckhove et al., 2018; Wagenmakers et al., 2016). In contrast to NHST, the Bayes
- 86 factor has the following advantages:
- 1) The Bayes factor cannot only provide evidence in favor of the alternative hypothesis
- but, in contrast to the *p*-value, it also provides evidence in favor of the null hypotheses;
- 2) As elaborated in Hoijtink, Mulder, et al. (2019), the Bayes factor is a continuous value
- that quantifies the degree of the evidence in favor of one hypothesis compared to
- another hypothesis instead of making a hard "accept/reject" decision about the null
- hypothesis. This helps to reduce the problem of replication crisis. This is because the
- evidence of supporting the null hypothesis can be obtained in the Bayesian framework.
- This makes it more likely to be published in scientific journals even when there are
- "non-significant" results as encountered in NHST;
- 3) The Bayes factor will approach 0 or ∞ when the sample size is very large (i.e., the
- Bayes factor for the null hypothesis H_0 goes to infinity if H_0 is true, and goes to 0 if the
- alternative hypothesis H_1 is true, as the sample size goes to infinity), that is, the
- property of consistency for Bayes factor as presented in Ly et al. (2016). This property
- guarantees that the Bayes factor will always support the true hypothesis when the
- sample size is large enough.
- 102 4) The Bayes factor can compare the null, unconstrained, complement, and informative
- hypotheses, where the informative hypothesis (Hoijtink, 2011) can express the
- researcher's expectations with regard to the sign or order of the regression coefficients of
- the predictors. For example, revisiting the example introduced earlier, the researcher
- may be interested in that IQ and SES both have a positive effect on *income*, that is,
- 107 $H_1: \beta_1 > 0, \beta_2 > 0.$
- As the Bayes factor becomes more and more often used (Van de Schoot et al., 2017;

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factor: for the evaluation of a null hypothesis versus the alternative hypothesis 111 BavesFactor ¹ (Morey et al., 2018); and, additionally, for the evaluation of informative 112 hypothesis bain ² (Gu et al., 2021) and BFpack ³ (Mulder et al., 2021). The first two 113 packages are also available in JASP ⁴ (Love et al., 2019), which is an easy to use statistical 114 software with intuitive interface. 115 In line with the popularity of Bayesian hypothesis testing, more attention to sample size 116 determination should be paid in this framework. The purpose of this paper combined with 117 Fu et al. (2021), and Fu et al. (unpublished) is to introduce a new R package SSDbain to 118 help researchers who are not mathematicians and/or statisticians to obtain the minimum 119 sample size required when the Bayes factor is used to evaluate informative hypotheses. The 120 sample size is determined such that the probability that the Bayes factor is larger than a 121 threshold denoted by BF_{thresh} is η under the competing hypotheses considered, where 122 BF_{thresh} is a value that constitutes sufficient evidence for the researchers, and η is the 123 probability to correctly find sufficient support for the true hypothesis. Throughout this 124 paper, sample size determination (SSD) for the comparison of null, informative, and 125 unconstrained hypotheses under a multiple linear regression in the Bayesian framework as implemented in the R package bain will be performed. This work will build on the sample 127 size calculations for two-sample t-test discussed in Fu et al. (2021), one-way ANOVA 128 discussed in Fu et al. (unpublished) and Bayes factor design analysis discussed in 129 Schönbrodt and Wagenmakers (2018) and Stefan et al. (2019). Several tables based on $R^2 = 0.13$, which corresponds to Cohen's medium effect size $f^2 = 0.15$, are presented as an 1 https://richarddmorey.github.io/BayesFactor/

Vandekerckhove et al., 2018; Wagenmakers et al., 2016), the Bayes factor calculation tools

emerge. Currently, there are three R packages that can be used to compute the Bayes

3 https://github.com/jomulder/BFpack

² https://informative-hypotheses.sites.uu.nl/software/bain/

⁴ https://jasp-stats.org/

example to assist researchers in determining the minimum sample size required.

The outline of this paper is as follows. First, the multiple linear regression models that are used in the article are introduced, the (informative) hypotheses that are evaluated are described, and the Bayes factor as implemented in the R package bain is further elaborated on. Subsequently, sample size determination will be introduced, followed by the introduction of the function SSDRegression in the R package SSDbain, features of SSD will be highlighted, and examples will be provided and discussed. The paper ends with a short conclusion.

Multiple Linear Regression and (Informative) Hypotheses

In this paper, K regression coefficients, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_K$ are considered, where K is an integer that is greater than or equal to 1. Let us consider the following linear regression model where a dependent variable Y is regressed on K predictor variables X_1, X_2, \dots, X_K , say,

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k x_{i,k} + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2), \tag{1}$$

where y_i for $i=1,\cdots,N$ is the *i*-th observation of the dependent variable Y,N denotes the size of the sample, $x_{i,k}$ denotes the *i*-th observation of the k-th predictor variable X_k , where $k=1,2,\cdots,K$, β_0 is the intercept of the regression model, β_k is the regression coefficient of the k-th predictor, and ϵ_i are independently and normally distributed errors with variance σ^2 .

In this paper, sample size will be determined for the comparison of null, informative,
complement, and unconstrained hypotheses. These hypotheses concern the regression
coefficients from the multiple linear regression model in Equation 1. The null and
unconstrained hypotheses are already well known in NHST. The informative hypothesis
will be introduced using the following example: a group of researchers wants to explore the
relationship between the response variable IQ and three predictor variables, namely social

skills, interest in artistic activities, and use of complicated language patterns. The multiple 155 linear regression model is used to fit this relationship. The corresponding regression 156 coefficients are denoted by β_1 , β_2 , and β_3 , respectively. The following pairs of hypotheses 157 may be compared: 1) A group of researchers is interested in whether at least one predictor 158 has an effect on the dependent variable IQ, that is, H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ vs H_a : at least 159 one predictor has an effect on IQ; 2) The same researchers may also have evidence that the 160 first three predictor variables are expected to be positively associated with IQ, that is, H_0 : 161 $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ vs H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0$, $\beta_2 > 0$, $\beta_3 > 0$; 3) In confirmatory studies, the interest is 162 typically in testing specific hypotheses with order constraints on the relative importance of 163 the predictors based on scientific expectations or psychological theories (Hoijtink, 2011, pp. 164 5–20). The researchers may expect that social skills is the strongest predictor, followed by 165 interest in artistic activities, and then use of complicated language patterns. They may 166 formulate the hypotheses as H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3$ vs H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$; 4) The researchers may be interested in supporting H_1 or precluding H_1 . That is, H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0$, $\beta_2 > 0$, $\beta_3 > 0$ vs 168 H_{1c} : not H_1 , where the subscript c refers to the complement of H_1 ; 5) The researchers may 169 want to know if H_2 is preferred over other hypotheses. That is, H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$ vs H_{2c} : 170 not H_2 , where the subscript c refers to the complement of H_2 . In this paper the generic 171 situations shown below will be studied, 172

173 Situation 1:

 H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K = 0$ vs H_a : at least one predictor has an effect on the dependent variable,

176 Situation 2:

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$$H_0$$
: $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K = 0$ vs H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0, \beta_2 > 0, \cdots, \beta_K > 0$,

where some or all the regression coefficients may be smaller than zero. That is, both "<" and ">" can exist in a hypothesis.

180 Situation 3:

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$$H_0$$
: $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_K \text{ vs } H_2$: $\beta_{1^*} > \beta_{2^*} > \dots > \beta_{K^*}$,

where 1^* , 2^* , \cdots , K^* are a re-ordering of the numbers $1, 2, \cdots, K$,

183 Situation 4:

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$$H_1$$
: $\beta_1 > 0$, $\beta_2 > 0$, \dots , $\beta_K > 0$ vs H_{1c} : not H_1 ,

It should be noted that in this situation only ">" or "<" is allowed. The complexity of the complement hypothesis if both ">" and "<" exist in one hypothesis prevent me from discussing it in this paper.

and, Situation 5:

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$$H_2$$
: $\beta_{1^*} > \beta_{2^*} > \dots > \beta_{K^*}$ vs H_{2c} : not H_2 .

The standardized regression coefficients are used in Situation 3 and Situation 5 to ensure the regression coefficients are comparable. The reason is that the regression coefficients β_1 , \cdots , β_K may all be in different units of measurement and direct comparison is illogical. In the next section it will be elaborated how the Bayes factor implemented in the R package bain can be used to evaluate these pairs of hypotheses.

Bayes Factor

In order to evaluate the competing hypotheses introduced in the previous section, the
Bayes factor will be used to quantify the relative evidence provided by the data. The Bayes
factor was proposed in pioneering work by Jeffreys (1961), and it was further discussed in
Edwards et al. (1963), Kass and Raftery (1995), and Myung and Pitt (1997). The Bayes
factor for informative hypotheses was elaborated in the tutorial by Hoijtink, Mulder, et al.
(2019), which contains all the references to the statistical background of these Bayes
factors. The Bayes factor can be explained as follows, in the case of H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0 \text{ versus } H_1: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4, \text{ a Bayes factor BF}_{01} = 19, \text{ for}$

instance, means there is 19 times more support for the model specifying the equality on the regression coefficients than for the model specifying order constraints. The Bayes factor for the null hypotheses H_0 , signed hypothesis H_1 , or order hypothesis H_2 versus the unconstrained hypothesis H_a (the hypothesis without restrictions on the regression coefficients) is defined by the marginal likelihood ratio (Jeffreys, 1961; Kass & Raftery, 1995)

$$BF_{za} = \frac{m_z(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X})}{m_a(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X})} = \frac{\iint f(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) \pi_z(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) d\boldsymbol{\beta} d\sigma^2}{\iint f(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) \pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) d\boldsymbol{\beta} d\sigma^2},$$
 (2)

where z=0, 1, 2, c, where $\pi_z(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) = \pi_z(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$ and $\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) = \pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$, where $\pi_z(\boldsymbol{\beta})$ and $\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2) = \pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$, where $\pi_z(\boldsymbol{\beta})$ and $\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta})$ denote the prior distribution under H_z and H_a , respectively, and $f(\boldsymbol{Y}, \boldsymbol{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2)$ is the density of the data based on the model in Equation 1.

According to Klugkist et al. (2005), Equation 2 can be simplified to

$$BF_{za} = \frac{f_z}{c_z},\tag{3}$$

where f_z is the fit of hypothesis H_z and c_z is its complexity.

The complexity c_z can be expressed as

$$c_z = \int_{\beta \in H_z} \pi_a(\beta) d\beta. \tag{4}$$

It is the proportion of the prior distribution in agreement with H_z if z=1, 2, and is reduced to the density $\pi_a(\beta = \mathbf{0})$ if z=0, where $\beta = (\beta_1 - \beta_2, \beta_2 - \beta_3, \dots, \beta_{k-1} - \beta_k)$ in case of $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_K$, and $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_K)$ in case of $\beta_1 = 0$ & $\beta_2 = 0$ \dots & $\beta_K = 0$. The complexity stands for how specific the hypothesis H_z is if z=1, 2. The more specific the inequality constrained hypothesis, the lower the complexity, but the complexity for the null hypothesis H_0 and the inequality constrained hypotheses H_1 or H_2 cannot be 222 compared because the first is a density and the latter a probability.

The fit f_z can be expressed as

$$f_z = \int_{\beta \in H_z} \pi_a(\beta \mid \mathbf{X}) d\beta. \tag{5}$$

It is the proportion of the posterior distribution in agreement with H_z if z=1, 2, and is reduced to the density $\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta} = \mathbf{0} \mid \boldsymbol{X})$ if z=0. The fit stands for how much the data supports H_z relative to H_a if z=1, 2. The more the support from the data, the larger the fit.

Based on BF_{za}, the Bayes factor BF_{zc} for z = 1, 2 that expresses the support in the data for H_z relative to its complement hypothesis H_c , can be derived as:

$$BF_{zc} = \frac{BF_{za}}{BF_{ca}} = \frac{f_z}{c_z} / \frac{1 - f_z}{1 - c_z},$$
 (6)

where $1 - f_z$ denotes the fit of hypothesis H_c , and $1 - c_z$ denotes the complexity of hypothesis H_c . The Bayes factor BF₀₂, that expresses the support in the data for H_0 against the competing hypothesis H_2 , is represented by:

$$BF_{02} = \frac{BF_{0a}}{BF_{2a}} = \frac{f_0}{c_0} / \frac{f_2}{c_2}, \tag{7}$$

233 and the Bayes factor BF₀₁ that expresses the support in the data for H_0 against the 234 competing hypothesis H_1 is represented by:

$$BF_{01} = \frac{BF_{0a}}{BF_{1a}} = \frac{f_0}{c_0} / \frac{f_1}{c_1}.$$
 (8)

In this paper, the calculation of the Bayes factor as implemented in the R package bain

(Gu et al., 2018; Hoijtink, Gu, et al., 2019) will be used. In bain, the posterior distribution

of the regression coefficients is approximated by a normal distribution based on large

sample theory (Gelman et al., 2013, pp. 101)

$$\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta} \mid \boldsymbol{X}) \approx N(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}}),$$
 (9)

where $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ is the MLE (maximum likelihood estimation) of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\beta}$ is its covariance matrix if Situations 1, 2, and 4 are considered, and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ is the MLE of the standardized parameters and their covariance matrix if Situations 3 and 5 are considered. In bain, the adjusted fractional normal prior distribution (Gu et al., 2018) is used.

$$\pi_a(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = N(\mathbf{0}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\beta}/b). \tag{10}$$

The variance of this prior for each of the regression coefficient is calculated using a fraction 243 b of the information in the data (De Santis & Spezzaferri, 2001; Mulder, 2014; O'Hagan, 244 1995). The mean of the prior for each of the regression coefficient is chosen as zero, which 245 is located on the boundary of the constrained region of the competing hypotheses to make 246 sure the Bayes factor is consistent when equality constrained hypotheses are evaluated (Mulder, 2014). 248 According to Berger and Pericchi (1996), the default value b = J/N is used to specify the 240 variance of the prior distribution, where J is the minimal training sample size (a small part 250 of the observed data). In bain, J is replaced by the number of independent constraints. 251 This can be illustrated using an example. If H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3$ versus H_1 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$, the number of independent constraints is J=2, that is, there are two contrasts $\beta_1-\beta_2$ and 253 $\beta_2 - \beta_3$ to be evaluated in the hypotheses. In order to explore the influence of the variance of the prior distribution on the resulting of 255 the Bayes factor if hypothesis H_0 is included in the competing hypotheses, a sensitivity 256 analysis should be conducted. A sensitivity analysis can help fully understand the Bayesian 257 results combined with the prior and properly interpret the impact of the prior. In the

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following sections, different choices of b value (b = J/N, b = 2J/N, and b = 3J/N) are used. If only the inequality constraints are included in the competing hypotheses, the prior has no influence on the value of Bayes factor, see Mulder (2014) for an explanation.

Therefore, the sensitivity analysis is relevant for Situations 1-3, but it does not affect the value of Bayes factor when different bs are used for Situations 4-5.

The Criterion for Sample Size Determination

In the traditional a priori power analysis, the purpose of sample size determination is to 265 control the Type I error rate and the Type II error rate. The sample size can be calculated 266 if the significance level α , the desired statistical power $1-\beta$, and the to-be-detected 267 population effect size f^2 in a multiple linear regression are given (Cohen, 1988, 1992). In 268 Bayesian hypothesis testing, instead of controlling the Type I error rate and Type II error 269 rate, the sample size is calculated to guarantee that the Bayes factor exceeds a user 270 specified threshold with a specific probability for the true hypothesis. In the following 271 paragraphs, it will be explained how the sample size is determined when the Bayes factor is 272 used to evaluate (informative) hypotheses under a multiple linear regression model. 273 The criterion that is proposed has also been used for the two-sample t-test (Fu et al., 2021) 274 and one-way ANOVA (Fu et al., unpublished). To help the readers understand how to 275 determine the sample size, we use Figure 1 to illustrate. The process of determining the 276 sample size can be divided into the following five steps: 277

- 1. Sample size determination always starts with the specification of two competing hypotheses. The competing hypotheses used in Figure 1 are H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ and H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$.
- 281 2. One needs to specify plausible values of the parameters in order to perform a sample size determination. For each population whether H_0 is true or H_1 is true, the parameter values are unknown. In the next section it will be elaborated how these

- parameter values can be chosen. For now, in Figure 1, when H_0 is true, $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0 \text{ is used, and when } H_1 \text{ is true, } \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0.208 \text{ is used, which}$ corresponds to $R^2 = 0.13$.
- 3. From each population, data sets with a certain sample size are repeatedly sampled.

 How the sample size is chosen will be elaborated in the next section.
- 4. For the population under H_0 , the Bayes factor BF₀₁ for each data set is computed and for the population under H_1 , the Bayes factor BF₁₀ for each data set is also computed. In Figure 1, in panel (a) on the left: the distribution of BF₀₁ is shown, and in panel (b) on the right: the distribution of BF₁₀ is shown.
- 5. The required sample size should be large enough such that the Bayes factor is larger 293 than a user selected threshold BF_{thresh} with a specific probability η , where 294 $BF_{thresh} = 3$ is marked with a dashed line, and $\eta = 0.8$ is marked with the shaded 295 area in Figure 1. That is, $P(BF_{01} > BF_{thresh}|H_0) \ge \eta$ and $P(BF_{10} > BF_{thresh}|H_1) \ge \eta$ 296 have to be satisfied. As shown in Figure 1, to satisfy the condition of BF₀₁ under H_0 : 297 $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ that $P(BF_{01} > 3|H_0) \ge 0.80$, the sample size required is N = 23, 298 While the sample size should be more than 100 to satisfy the condition that 299 $P(BF_{10} > 3|H_1) \ge 0.80$ when H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$ with $R^2 = 0.13$. To 300 satisfy both conditions, at least a sample of N = 100 should be collected. 301

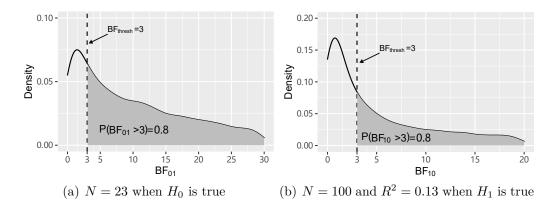


Figure 1. The sampling distribution of BF₀₁ under H_0 and BF₁₀ under H_1 . The vertical dashed line represents BF_{thresh} = 3, and the shaded area denotes the probability that the Bayes factor exceeds 3 if the target $\eta = 0.8$. The N in the label is the sample size needed to achieve the requirements.

Researchers require the relative support in the data under one hypothesis compared to the other hypothesis, or vice versa, to be at least BF_{thresh}. The η is used to control the error 303 rates when either of the competing hypothesis is true. If $\eta = 0.8$, this means that the error 304 rate is not more than $1 - \eta = 0.2$ if either of the competing hypotheses is true. The 305 remaining issue is that there is still a lack of a standard to choose the sizes of BF_{thresh} and 306 η . What constitutes sufficient evidence, and what is the appropriate probability to 307 convincingly support the true hypothesis? The selection of these values depends on the 308 area of research and whether primary or secondary outcome measures are investigated. 309 The researchers can consult the professionals in the field of behavior and social science, for 310 example, to fill in a questionnaire, ask them about what constitutes sufficient evidence for 311 various scenarios in their respective fields. The responses from the professionals can be 312 modelled with the wisdom-of-the-crowd paradigm (Lee et al., 2012; Surowiecki, 2004), 313 which states that an aggregate of the judgment and estimates of many people is more 314 accurate than the judgement of one person. Based on the risk level of the research, the 315 appropriate value of the BF_{thresh} also varies. For example, to verify the effectiveness of 316 vaccines against the Covid-19, a large value of the BF_{thresh} is recommended, such as 10. 317 Contrary to that, a small value, such as 3, is preferred for the investigation of the height of 318

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elementary school students in different regions. The η is introduced to limit the error rates. For example, when η is equal to 0.8, the Type I error and Type II error rates would be no more than 20%. If the consequences of missing an effect may be significant, for example in a toxicity test, one may need a relatively high η , e.g. 0.90. In a survey, one would be interested only in large effects, and errors in detecting effects may not have such serious consequences. In this case, $\eta = 0.80$ may be sufficient.

The Basic Algorithm Used for Sample Size Determination

In the Bayesian framework, most of the research questions and data issues are sufficiently complicated such that the problems cannot be solved analytically. In this paper, when the researchers use the Bayes factor to evaluate hypotheses, Monte Carlo methods will be used to determine the sample size. Figure 2 displays the process of the simulation-based algorithm. The corresponding steps in Figure 2 are discussed below.

- 1. Before proceeding with the sample size determination, the following ingredients need to be specified:
 - (1) The competing hypotheses are specified using the regression coefficients. The options for the competing hypotheses are the null, the complement, the unconstrained, the order and the sign hypotheses.
 - (2) The regression coefficients for each population in which the hypothesis is true can be calculated if the fixed coefficient of determination R^2 ($R^2 > 0$) and the ratio among the regression coefficients $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_K$ are given. Appendix B shows how to achieve the regression coefficients if these two factors are known. If $R^2 = 0$, the regression coefficients for the population are all equal to 0.
 - (3) The correlation matrix among the predictor variables

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$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \rho_{12} & \cdots & \rho_{1K} \\ \rho_{21} & 1 & \cdots & \rho_{2K} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \rho_{K1} & \cdots & \rho_{K(K-1)} & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This ingredient is used to generate correlated data. This is because in practice, correlated predictor variables are the rule rather than the exception.

- (4) The desired threshold for the Bayes factor BF_{thresh} .
- The probability η that the Bayes factor is larger than BF_{thresh} under each of the two competing hypotheses.
- 2. Randomly draw T data sets with sample of size N=10 if the hypothesis H_s is true 348 and if the competing hypothesis H_v is true. The data sets are denoted as 349 $(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}^{(t)}, y_{si}^{(t)}) = (x_{i1}^{(t)}, \cdots, x_{iK}^{(t)}, \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k^s x_{ik} + \epsilon_i), \text{ and}$ 350 $(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}^{(t)}, y_{vi}^{(t)}) = (x_{i1}^{(t)}, \cdots, x_{iK}^{(t)}, \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k^v x_{ik} + \epsilon_i)$, respectively, where s = 0, 1, 2, v = 1, 351 $2, a, 1c, or 2c, and \beta_k^s$ is the regression coefficient when the hypothesis H_s is true, and 352 β_k^v is the regression coefficients when the competing hypothesis is true, where 353 $t=1,\cdots,T$. As is elaborated in Appendix B, the intercept β_0 is set to zero, $\boldsymbol{x}_i^{(t)}\sim$ 354 $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$ and the regression coefficients are chosen such that $y_{si}^{(t)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, and 355 $y_{vi}^{(t)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$, that is, in the population the regression coefficients are standardized. 356
 - 3. Compute the values of the Bayes factor for each simulated data set. If H_s is true the Bayes factor is denoted by $BF_{sv}^{(t)}$ $(t = 1, 2, \dots, T)$ and if H_v is true, the Bayes factor is denoted by $BF_{vs}^{(t)}$.
- 4. Calculate the proportion of the Bayes factor that is larger than BF_{thresh} , that is, $P(BF_{sv}^{(t)} > BF_{thresh}|H_s) \text{ denoted by } p_s \text{ and the probability } P(BF_{vs}^{(t)} > BF_{thresh}|H_v)$ denoted by p_v .
 - 5. If both p_s and p_v are larger than η , the algorithm stops and the sample sizes

computed are provided. Otherwise, the sample size N is progressively increased by 364 one, return to Step 2, and repeat Steps 3-5 until both p_s and p_v are larger than η . 365 The computing effort of the basic algorithm can be extremely high when the required 366 sample size is very large, since the number of the iterations is N-10+1. In addition, to 367 execute the sensitivity analyses, the process from Step 1 to Step 5 has to be performed with 368 three different fraction values, namely $b = \frac{J}{N}$, $b = \frac{2J}{N}$ and $b = \frac{3J}{N}$ (see the section "Bayes 369 Factor"). Therefore, the computation effort is tripled. To reduce the computation effort, an 370 improved algorithm based on a dichotomy algorithm is introduced in Appendix A. 371

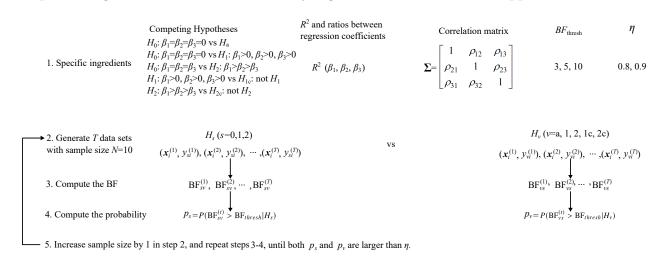


Figure 2. The process for sample size determination with K=3.

SSDRegression: A Function for Sample Size Determination for Multiple Linear Regression

Sample size determination using the Bayes factor for evaluating null, informative,
complement, and unconstrained hypotheses within the multiple linear regression models
was implemented in a function SSDRegression in the R package SSDbain to facilitate
general utilization of the methodology. It has to be emphasized that the user can refer to
the help file for further elaboration of the function, and the function has been tested in the
test-that file. The code is available on GitHub ⁵. This package already includes three

⁵ https://github.com/Qianrao-Fu/SSDbain

functions called "SSDttest", "SSDANOVA", "SSDANOVA_robust", which have been introduced in Fu et al. (2021) and Fu et al. (unpublished). As a part of the R package SSDbain, the function "SSDRegression" will now be introduced. This section describes the specific input and the return results for function "SSDRegression". After installing the R package SSDbain (which automatically installs bain if not already installed on your computer), the following call is used to calculate the sample size required.

library(SSDbain)

Res<-SSDRegression(Hyp1="beta1=beta2=beta3=0",Hyp2="Ha",k=2,rho=matrix(c)

The following arguments appear in this call:

- 1. Hyp1 and Hyp2, strings that specify one pair of hypotheses of interest. For example, if H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ versus H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0$ & $\beta_2 > 0$ & $\beta_3 > 0$,

 Hyp1='beta1=beta2=beta3=0', Hyp2='beta1>0 & beta2>0 & beta3>0'. Attention should be paid to the following situations. If the unconstrained hypothesis is involved, Hyp2='Ha'; if the complement hypothesis is engaged, Hyp2='Hc'.
- 2. K, a positive integer that specifies the number of predictors. For example, if the model is $y_i = \beta_1 x_{i1} + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \beta_3 x_{i3} + \epsilon_i$, K=3.
- 3. rho, a matrix that specifies the correlation between the predictors, which is a symmetric matrix with ones on the diagonal and values of ρ elsewhere. Here ρ is the correlation between two different predictors.
- 401 4. R_square1 and R_square2, parameters used to specify the coefficients of
 determination R_1^2 and R_2^2 under Hyp1 and Hyp2, respectively. Typically, the expected
 R_square1 and R_square2 are identified from 1) a pilot study; 2) a similar study; 3)
 a field defined meaningful effect; or 4) an educated guess based on informal
 observations and knowledge of the field.

- 5. BFthresh, a numeric value not less than 1 that specifies the required size of the
 Bayes factor for the true hypothesis. For example, if H_0 is compared with H_2 ,

 BF₀₂ \geq BF_{thresh} or BF₂₀ \geq BF_{thresh} should be reached. The default setting is

 BFthresh=3. In the next section it will be elaborated why this is the default value.
- 6. eta, a numeric value that specifies the probability that the Bayes factor is larger than

 BFthresh if either of the competing hypotheses is true. For example if H_0 versus H_2 and H_2 is true, $P(BF_{20} > BF_{thresh}|H_2) \ge \eta$. The default setting is eta=0.80. In the

 next section it will be elaborated why this is the default value.
- 7. T_sim, a positive integer that specifies the number of data sets sampled from the
 populations corresponding to the two hypotheses of interest. A larger number of
 samples returns a more accurate sample size estimate but takes a longer time to run.
 Users are advised to start with a smaller number of samples (e.g., T_sim=1000) to get
 a rough estimate of the required sample size before confirming it with the default
 setting T_sim=10000.
- 8. seed, a positive integer that specifies the seed of R's random number generator. The
 sample size required may be different with different seed values, but the number of
 simulated data sets T_sim can be large enough to ensure the stability of the results.

 It should be noted that at least T_sim=10000 is required to guarantee the stability of
 the results. The default setting is seed=10. In Table 4 it will be illustrated that using
 T_sim=10000 renders stable results.
- 9. standardize, a logical value that specifies whether hypotheses regarding
 standardized or unstandardized regression coefficients are evaluated. With
 standardize = TRUE hypotheses with respect to standardized regression coefficients
 are evaluated. With standardize = FALSE hypotheses with respect to
 unstandardized regression coefficients are evaluated. In the R package bain, the
 Bayes factors are calculated differently when standardized and unstandardized

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coefficients are evaluated. The function seBeta in the R package fungible is used to estimate the standardized regression coefficients and their corresponding covariance matrix, and the function lm in the R package stats is used to estimate the unstandardized regression coefficients and their corresponding covariance matrix. It should be highlighted that if the ordered hypothesis for regression coefficients is included, standardize = TRUE should be used. This is because, as explained earlier, standardized coefficients are comparable, but unstandardized coefficients are not. For other cases, standardize = FALSE.

10. ratio, an optional vector that specifies the ratio among the regression coefficients for 440 the population if H_1 is one of the interested hypothesises. For Situation 1, the ratio 441 of the regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_a . For Situation 2, the ratio of 442 the regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_1 . For Situation 3, the ratio of the 443 regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_0 and the regression coefficients are computed such that $R^2 = 0.13$, and the ratio of the regression coefficients Kd: 445 (K-1)d: ···: 3d: 2d: d is used for H_2 , where d can be calculated by Equation 13. If 446 the order of regression coefficients in the hypothesis H_2 changes, the corresponding ratio will follow the variation of the regression coefficients in the hypothesis. For Situation 4, the ratio is consistent with H_1 in Situation 2, and the ratio is reordered 449 using the representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{1c} . For Situation 5, the 450 ratio is consistent with H_2 in Situation 3, and the ratio is reordered using the 451 representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{2c} , where K is the number of 452 predictors involved in the hypotheses. The elaborations of how this leads to 453 regression coefficients for the considered hypothesis can be found in Appendix B. 454

After running the function, the main output resulting from analyses are the sample size required and the corresponding probability that the Bayes factor is larger than BF_{thresh} when either of the competing hypotheses is true. As an example, if the following call to

458 SSDRegression is executed,

the results are obtained using fractions b = J/N, b = 2J/N and b = 3J/N (with the aim to address the sensitivity to the specification of the prior distribution):

```
using N=146 and fraction b=0.0205
466
        P(BF0a > 3 | H0) = 0.973
467 2
        P(BFa0>3|Ha)=0.803
468 3
469 4
         using N=120 and fraction b=0.0500
470 5
        P(BF0a > 3 | H0) = 0.918
4716
         P(BFa0>3|Ha)=0.804
472 7
473 8
         using N=105 and fraction b=0.0857
474 9
         P(BF0a > 3 | H0) = 0.840
475.0
         P(BFa0>3|Ha)=0.806
476
```

According to the results, the sample size required is 146 if the minimum fraction b = J/N is used. Moreover, the results of sensitivity analysis were summarized to develop a deeper understanding of the impact of the prior distributions in an applied Bayesian research. In this paper, the sensitivity analysis would entail adjusting the variance of the prior distribution to see how much impact the variance of the prior distribution makes on the final sample size. For example, if b = 2J/N is used, the required sample size is 120, and it is 105 if b = 3J/N is used. Therefore, the probabilities $P(BF_{0a} > 3|H_0)$ and $P(BF_{a0} > 3|H_a)$ are becoming closer with the increase of the fraction b. If the researchers want to obtain a conservative result (e.g., a convincing evidence should be required before another hypothesis is preferred over the null hypothesis), researchers can collect data with

sample size 146; and collect data with sample size 105 if they want to obtain a similar probability for $P(BF_{0a} > 3|H_0)$ and $P(BF_{a0} > 3|H_a)$.

Sample Size Tables for Multiple Linear Regression

To investigate the sample size and highlight the properties of sample size determination for 490 multiple linear regression, a total of seven tables were made. Tables 1-6 containing two 491 predictors, three predictors, and four predictors, where the predictors are uncorrelated 492 $(\rho = 0)$, weakly correlated $(\rho = 0.2)$, and strongly correlated $(\rho = 0.5)$ are shown. Tables 493 1-3 show the regression coefficients for the populations under the hypotheses H_0 , H_1 , H_2 , 494 H_a , H_{1c} , and H_{2c} for the standard situation, which will be introduced in the next 495 paragraph. These regression coefficients are obtained via the approach elaborated in 496 Appendix B. Tables 4-6 demonstrate the required sample size and the corresponding 497 probability that the Bayes factor is larger than $BF_{thresh} = 3$, which can be used if users 498 agree with the "standard". Of course, users can differ in opinion, use other values and 499 compute the sample size using the R package SSDbain. Finally, the sample size comparison 500 under frequentist and Bayesian frameworks are shown in Table 7. 501 At the present, standard choices for Bayesian sample size determination do not exist and 502 will be proposed in this paper (see Tables 1-3). The standard situation is defined as 503 $R^2 = 0.13$, $BF_{thresh} = 3$, $\eta = 0.8$, and the ratios of the regression coefficients for different 504 hypotheses are described as follows. For Situation 1, the ratio of the regression coefficients 505 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_a . For situation 2, the ratio of the regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_1 . For Situation 3, the ratio of the regression coefficients Kd: (K-1)d: ...: 3d, 2d: d is used for H_2 , where d can be calculated by Equation 13. If the order of regression coefficients in the hypothesis H_2 changes, the corresponding ratio will follow the 509 variation of the regression coefficients in the hypothesis. The ratio of the regression 510 coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_0 and the coefficients are computed such that 511 $R^2 = 0.13$. For Situation 4, the ratio is consistent with H_1 in Situation 2, and the ratio is

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- reordered using the representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{1c} . For Situation 5, the ratio is consistent with H_2 in Situation 3, and the ratio is reordered using the representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{2c} . As for the definition of standard situation, the reasons are as follows.
- 1. The coefficient of determination $R^2 = 0.13$ is selected, which corresponds to Cohen's medium effect size $f^2 = 0.15$. As phrased by Cohen (1988) the medium effect size is conceived as a size large enough to be visible to the naked eye. Meta-analyses showed that the average published effect size is around the medium effect size (Bakker et al., 2012), which therefore coincides with the needs of most psychologists.
- The threshold of Bayes factor BF $_{thresh}$ is 3 in the standard situation because the Bayes factor of 3 often matches the amount of evidence with p-value<0.05 (Jeffreys, 1961; Wetzels et al., 2011). Besides, Dienes (2014) argued that the corresponding Bayes factor is about 3 when a result is just significant. Furthermore, the Bayes factor of 3 deserving attention is a consensus in the scientific community, which represents a just convincing evidence boundary (Dienes & Mclatchie, 2018; Jeffreys, 1961; Kass & Raftery, 1995).
- 3. The value of $\eta = 0.8$ means that the probability that the Bayes factor exceeds the 529 $\mathrm{BF}_{thresh}=3$ is at least 0.8 no matter which hypothesis in one pair of hypotheses is 530 true. The value of 0.80 is used because it is a commonly accepted value for sufficient 531 power in the classical framework. A pair of hypotheses is considered because the 532 Bayes factors is symmetric in the sense that it allows accumulating evidence for 533 either of these two hypothesis. This is in contrast with the p-values in null hypothesis 534 significance testing where the type I error rate is 0.05, while the type II error rate is 535 0.2.536
 - 4. According to the guidance in Vanbrabant et al. (2015), the differences between the regression coefficients should be equally spaced, and the common difference is denoted

by d. Therefore, if H_2 is considered, the ratio of $Kd: \cdots: 3d: 2d: d$, where d can be 539 calculated by Equation 13, or a reordering of the arithmetic sequence $Kd, \dots, 3d, 2d$ 540 d for the variations of H_2 is chosen. If H_1 and H_a are considered, the ratio of 1: 1: 541 \cdots : 1 is chosen, where 1 may be replaced by -1 if the smaller than symbol < is used 542 in H_1 . If H_0 from Situation 3 is considered, the ratio of the regression coefficients is 543 1: 1: ···: 1. This ratio makes the absolute value of regression coefficients equal. 544 The results in Tables 4-6 are obtained with set.seed=10. To illustrate the stability of the 545 results with T=10000, Table 4 also presents (within parenthesis) the obtained sample sizes 546 using set.seed=1234. As can be seen, the results of sample size determination with 547 T=10000 is not sensitive to the choice of the seed. Based on the results presented in these 548 tables, several features of SSD can be highlighted. 1) The required sample size for H_1 540 versus H_0 is smaller than for H_a versus H_0 . For example, in Table 4, when $\rho = 0$, the 550 sample size is 121 if H_0 is compared with H_a , while a sample size of 90 is needed if H_1 is 551 used instead of H_a . The reason is that H_1 is more specific than H_a , which is illustrated in 552 Figure 3. The shaded area on the left of Figure 3 is the parameter space of H_a (no 553 constraints are imposed on the standardized regression coefficients β_1 and β_2), and the shaded area on the right of Figure 3 is the parameter space of H_1 . The parameter space for H_1 is contained in H_a . Therefore, it is easier to distinguish H_0 from H_1 than from H_a . Hence, a higher probability that the Bayes factor exceeds a determined threshold is 557 obtained and consequently a smaller sample-size is needed. 2) As the fraction used in the 558 prior distribution increases from b = J/N to b = 2J/N, then to b = 3J/N, the required 559 sample size is reduced if H_0 is one of the hypotheses under consideration. For example, in 560 Table 5, when H_0 is compared with H_2 for $\rho = 0$, the required sample size is 776 for 561 b = J/N, 675 for b = 2J/N, and 624 for b = 3J/N. This can be explained as follows. 562 Firstly, the sample size is $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$, where N_1 is the sample size when H_0 is true, 563 and N_2 is the sample size when the competing hypothesis is true. Secondly, from Tables 564 4-6, the probability p_0 is much larger than 0.8, indicating that it is easier for the hypothesis 565

 H_0 than for its competing hypothesis to reach the threshold of 3, thus the required sample 566 size is N_2 obtained if the competing hypothesis is true. Thirdly, the complexity c_0 becomes 567 larger as the fraction b increases. The reason is that a larger b implies a prior with a 568 smaller variance as shown in Equation 10 such that the prior density evaluated at 569 $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K$ or $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K = 0$ in Equation 4 is larger. Therefore, the 570 Bayes factors BF_{0a} , BF_{01} , and BF_{02} decrease as b increases. Taking the inverse yields the 571 opposite, the Bayes factor $\mathrm{BF}_{a0},\,\mathrm{BF}_{10},\,\mathrm{and}~\mathrm{BF}_{20}$ increase as b increases. Thus, the sample 572 size N_2 decreases with b. The advice about how to choose b is described in the final 573 paragraph of section "SSDRegression: A Function for Sample Size Determination for 574 Multiple Linear Regression". 3) When H_0 is compared with the order hypothesis H_2 , the 575 required sample size is much larger than that in other cases in the same table. For 576 example, in Table 4, when H_0 versus H_2 for $\rho = 0.5$, the required sample size is 2721 for 577 b = J/N, 2527 for b = 2J/N, and 2426 for b = 3J/N. This occurs because the regression 578 coefficients are relatively close to each other as presented in Tables 1-3. However, the 579 sample size can be adjusted through enlarging the common difference from d to a multiple 580 of d. For example, the ratio with three predictors can be chosen as (7d: 4d: d) instead of 581 (3d: 2d: d) in Table 5, which will reduce the sample size because it is easier to distinguish 582 regression coefficients that have more unequal sizes. 4) In general, as the number of 583 predictors increases, the sample size required increases. For example, if \mathcal{H}_0 is compared 584 with H_a , $\rho = 0$, and fraction b = J/N, from Tables 4-6, we observe that the sample size 585 increases from 121 to 147, then to 170 when the number of predictors increases from 2 to 3, 586 then to 4. This is consistent with the property for the classical sample size in Table 7. 587 From Table 7, we can see that the sample size increases from 68 to 77, then to 85 for 2, 3, 588 and 4 predictors, respectively. This is because when more predictors are added a higher 589 level of evidence is required to state that any of them are significant (classical) or 590 substantial (Bayesian). 591

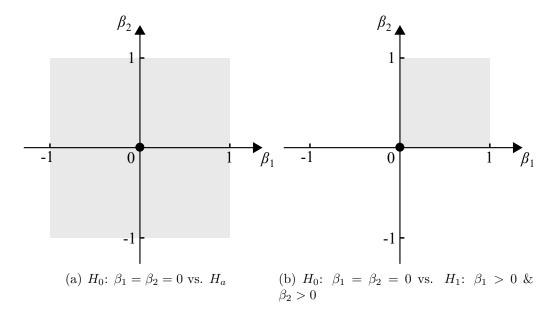


Figure 3. The grey area in Figure (a) is the admissible parameter space for H_a , the grey area in Figure (b) is the admissible parameter space for H_1 , and the black bold dot is the admissible parameter space for H_0 .

As shown in Table 7, the comparison of sample size for the standard situation in the Bayesian framework and standard a priori power analysis are illustrated. The focused 593 Situation is H_0 vs H_a because this situation exists in both classical and Bayesian 594 hypothesis testing. Situation H_0 vs H_1 in Table 7 is used for supplementary illustration. 595 From Table 7, compared with the classical sample size, a larger sample size is required for 596 the SSD based on the Bayes factor. For instance, if H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$ versus H_a , the sample 597 size is 68 in the classical framework, while the sample size is 121 if the fraction b = 2/N is 598 used for Bayes factor. When b=2/N is used, the Bayes factor is very conservative (see, 599 Hoijtink, Mulder, et al., 2019). In other words, the sample size has to be large enough to 600 provide a convincing evidence to support the non-null hypothesis. Furthermore, for a less 601 conservative value such as b = 2J/N and b = 3J/N the required sample size decreases. 602 According to the first item in Table 7, the sample size is 104 for b = 2J/N, and 95 for 603 b = 3J/N, which approaches the classical sample size of 68 although it remains slightly 604 larger. Next, when H_0 is compared with the sign hypothesis H_1 , the required sample sizes

(depending on b) may even be smaller than the ones in the classical framework. For 606 example, when the number of predictors K=3, the required sample size is 71 for 607 b = 2J/N and 66 for b = 3J/N, which are smaller than the classical sample size of 77. 608 The sample size resulting from Bayesian may be larger than the sample size resulting from 609 power analysis, but the Bayes factor provides more information than the p-value. 1) The 610 Bayes factor can quantify the degree of evidence supporting one hypothesis over another 611 hypothesis. For example, in Tables 4-6, the sample size is calculated such that the degree 612 of evidence of supporting the true hypothesis is 3 times larger than the competing 613 hypothesis. 2) Researchers can obtain more specific knowledge if they use an informative 614 hypothesis instead of the traditional alternative hypothesis. For example, if H_0 is 615 compared with H_2 , researchers do not only know if the three coefficients are equal or not, 616 but also know the order of the coefficients. 3) The required sample size can be adjusted 617 through sensitivity analysis by modifying the scaling parameter of the prior distribution. If 618 researchers favor the null hypothesis, a larger scaling parameter that corresponds to a 619 smaller fraction b would be chosen because it makes it easier to reject the alternative in 620 favor of the null hypothesis; and if they want to obtain relatively symmetrical evidence for 621 supporting one pair of competing hypothesis, the fraction b can be chosen such that both probabilities become as equal as possible. This can be illustrated using the comparison of H_0 with H_1 in Table 5. If b = J/N is chosen, the probability that the Bayes factor is larger 624 than 3 is 0.964 when H_0 is true, but the probability that the Bayes factor is larger than 3 is 625 0.802 when H_1 is true. If b = 3J/N is chosen, the probability that the Bayes factor is larger 626 than 3 is 0.811 when H_0 is true, and the probability that the Bayes factor is larger than 3 627 is 0.833, which are relatively close. 628

629 Illustrative example 1

A study has been designed by a psychologist to explore the relationship between the SAT score of students and achievement levels (β_1) , cultural factors (β_2) , socioeconomic status

 (β_3) , and psychological factors (β_4) . To determine the sample size it is assumed that the correlation between each pair of predictors equals 0.3. The psychologist plans to compare hypothesis H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$ with H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0$. Based on experience, the psychologist expects that R^2 will be about 0.09. The sample size should be large enough such that $\mathrm{BF}_{thresh} = 3$ and $\eta = 0.8$ are satisfied. The required sample size can be determined using the following call to SSDRegression.

```
Res <- SSDRegression (Hyp1='beta1=beta2=beta3=beta4=0', Hyp2='beta1>0&beta2>0&beta3>0&beta4>0', k=4, rho=matrix(c

(1,0.3,0.3,0.3,0.3,0.3,1,0.3,0.3,0.3,1,0.3,0.3,0.3,0.3,0.3,1), nrow=k), R_

square1=0, R_square2=0.13, T_sim=10000, BFthresh=3, eta=0.8, seed=10,

standardize=FALSE, ratio=c(1,1,1,1))
```

The results are as follows.

```
using N=151 and fraction b=0.0265
644
        P(BF01>3|H0)=0.990
645 2
        P(BF10>3|H1)=0.803
6463
647 4
        using N=107 and fraction b=0.0748
648 5
        P(BF01>3|H0)=0.948
649 6
        P(BF10>3|H1)=0.805
650 7
651 8
        using N=78 and fraction b=0.1538
652.9
        P(BF01>3|H0)=0.862
653.0
        P(BF10>3|H1)=0.802
654
```

Based on the above results, if the researchers use the minimum fraction b = J/N of the
data for the prior distribution, the required sample size is 151. If the fraction of the data is
increased to two times of the minimum fraction 2J/N, the required sample size is reduced
to 107. If the fraction of the data is increased to three times of the minimum fraction 3J/N, the required sample size is reduced to 78. If the resources are sufficient, and the
psychologist wants to get a larger probability that the Bayes factor supports the null

hypothesis if it is true, he or she should use a smaller b. If the resources are insufficient, or 661 the psychologist wants to get two relatively close probability values regardless of whether 662 the null or non-null hypothesis is true, a larger b is recommended. Specifically, from the 663 result above, we can see that when b = 0.0265 is used, the probability that the Bayes factor 664 supports the null hypothesis H_0 is 0.990, which is larger than the probability of 0.803 that 665 the Bayes factor supports H_1 . If b = 0.1538 is used, the probability that the Bayes factor 666 supports H_0 is 0.862, and the probability that the Bayes factor supports H_1 is 0.802. These 667 two probabilities are much closer. 668

Illustrative example 2 Considering the example from Vanbrabant et al. (2015): a group of psychologists wants to investigate the relation among IQ and social skills (β_1), interest in artistic activities (β_2), and use of complicated language patterns (β_3). The hypotheses of interest are H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0$ & $\beta_2 > 0$ & $\beta_3 > 0$ versus H_c : not H_1 . The psychologists expect a medium effect size $f^2 = 0.15$, which corresponding to a coefficient of determination

$$R^2=0.13$$
. The correlation matrix $\mathbf{\Sigma}=\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 1 & 0.2 \\ 0.2 & 0.2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. After looking up the

corresponding results in Table 5, the following information can be obtained

```
using N=40 and fraction b=0.0750

P(BF1c>3|H1)=0.809

P(BFc1>3|Hc)=0.827
```

Based on the above results, the required sample size is 40. As elaborated earlier in this paper, for hypotheses $\beta_1 > 0$ & $\beta_2 > 0$ & $\beta_3 > 0$ and H_c , the Bayes factor is not sensitive to the prior distribution regardless which fraction b is used.

682 Conclusion

This paper proposed a sample size determination method to evaluate the classical null, unconstrained, and informative hypotheses (and their complement) in the context of the

multiple linear regression model. The presented sample size tables will benefit researchers 685 as they will be able to look up the necessary sample size if they aim to use the standard 686 Bayesian situation, that is, $BF_{thresh} = 3$, $\eta = 0.8$, $R^2 = 0.13$, and the ratios of the 687 regression coefficients for different hypotheses are described as follows. For Situation 1, the 688 ratio of the regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_a . For situation 2, the ratio of 680 the regression coefficients 1: 1: \cdots : 1 is used for H_1 . For Situation 3, the ratio of the 690 regression coefficients Kd: (K-1)d: \cdots : 3d: 2d: d is used for H_2 , where d can be 691 calculated by Equation 13. If H_0 from Situation 3 is considered, the ratio of the regression 692 coefficients is 1: 1: \cdots : 1. If the order of regression coefficients in the hypothesis H_2 693 changes, the corresponding ratio will follow the variation of the regression coefficients in 694 the hypothesis. For Situation 4, the ratio is consistent with H_1 in Situation 2, and the ratio 695 is reordered using the representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{1c} . For Situation 5, the ratio is consistent with H_2 in Situation 3, and the ratio is reordered using the representative hypothesis (see Appendix B) for H_{2c} , where K is the number of predictors 698 involved in the hypotheses. If researchers aim to use other situations than the standard 699 ones covered in the tables, the function SSDRegression, which is part of the R package, 700 SSDbain can be used to help researchers to calculate the sample size. Compared with the 701 unconstrained hypothesis, the introduction of informative hypotheses results in a 702 substantial gain in the probability that the Bayes factor exceeds the threshold and thus 703 reduces the required sample size. 704 This paper makes an important contribution to sample size determination for informative 705 hypotheses using Bayes factor within multiple linear regression models. However, it has 706 some limitations. First, sample size determination is available if the assumptions of the 707 regression model used to simulate the data also apply to real data. Secondly, since missing 708 data may occur in real data, and the researchers will have to guess which proportion of 709 their data is missing, and adjust the required sample size accordingly. Thirdly, commonly 710 used models at the present such as t-test, one-way ANOVA and multiple linear regression 711

- have been considered. However, SSD extensions to more complex models, like structural equation modeling, and general multivariate models still have to be developed and will be
- ⁷¹⁴ added to the package of SSDbain in the future.
- Despite these limitations, the R package SSDbain should be a welcome addition to the
- ⁷¹⁶ applied researcher's toolbox, and can help the researcher identify the required sample sizes
- while planning a research project.

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Appendix A: SSD based on dichotomy search algorithm

In this appendix, an improved algorithm that can effectively speed up the calculation 882 process based on the dichotomy search is introduced. As described in the basic algorithm 883 in the section "The Basic Algorithm Used for Sample Size Determination", a large amount 884 of iterations are conducted for the calculation process from Steps 2-5, which brings great 885 burdens on the computation and costs more time to reach the conditions in Step 5. The 886 presented search-based process can sharply reduce the computing burden by reducing the 887 number of iterations. The basic idea of the proposed algorithm is to gradually adjust the sample size using a dichotomy algorithm until $p_s \ge \eta$ and $p_v \ge \eta$ hold. The Steps 4-5 described in the basic algorithm in the section "The Basic Algorithm Used for Sample Size 890 Determination" are replaced by the following steps. 891

Step 4: Define the lower and upper bound of sample size N for the dichotomy search method.

To use the dichotomy search method, the interval of the sample size needs to be
determined. Let LB and UB denote the lower and upper bound of the optimal sample size N, where the LB cannot be smaller than 10. In order to narrow the distance between
lower and upper bound, the following steps are conducted.

- Compute p_s and p_v using Steps 2-4 from the basic algorithm based on N=100.
- (i) If $p_s \ge \eta$ and $p_v \ge \eta$, then set $N = \frac{N}{2}$, and repeat Steps 2-4 and (i) until $p_s < \eta$ or $p_v < \eta$. Then set LB = N, UB = 2N.
- (ii) If $p_s < \eta$ or $p_v < \eta$, then set N = 2N, and repeat Steps 2-4 and (ii) until $p_s \ge \eta$ and $p_v \ge \eta$. Then set $LB = \frac{N}{2}$, UB = N.

903 Step 5: Compute the optimal sample size

- 904 (I) Based on the LB and UB determined by above, let $N_{\text{mid}} = \frac{LB + UB}{2}$.
- 905 (II) Compute p_s and p_v with $N = N_{\text{mid}}$ using Steps 2-4.
- 906 (III) If $p_s \ge \eta$ and $p_v \ge \eta$, $UB = N_{\text{mid}}$; else, $LB = N_{\text{mid}}$.
- 907 (IV) Update the value of N_{mid} with $N_{\text{mid}} = \frac{LB + UB}{2}$.
- 908 (V) Return to Step II with $N=N_{\rm mid}$ and repeat Steps II-V until $N_{\rm mid}=LB+1$ 909 satisfied. Then $N=N_{\rm mid}$.
- Appendix B: How to calculate the regression coefficients based on the coefficient of determination and the ratio among the regression coefficients
- In this appendix, the process of calculating the regression coefficients is described if the input ingredients coefficient of determination R^2 and the ratio among the regression coefficients are given instead of the regression coefficients are given directly. This matter has been mentioned in Section "The Basic Algorithm Used for Sample Size Determination".

 Based on the Model in Equation 1, the regression coefficients can be computed as follows.
- 1. Variance can be calculated on both sides of Equation 1:

$$VAR[y_i] = VAR[\sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k x_{ik}] + VAR(\epsilon_i).$$
(11)

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2. Divide by $VAR[y_i]$ on both sides of Equation 11,

$$1 = R^2 + \frac{VAR(\epsilon_i)}{VAR[y_i]}. (12)$$

3. As presented in the section "The Basic Algorithm Used for Sample Size

Determination", $VAR[x_{ik}]=1$ and $VAR[y_i]=1$. Combining with Equation 10 and 11,

the formula for coefficient of determination R^2 can be rewritten as

$$R^{2} = VAR\left[\sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_{k} x_{ik}\right] = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_{k}^{2} + 2 \sum_{k < k'} \beta_{k} \beta_{k'} \rho_{kk'}, \tag{13}$$

where $\rho_{kk'}$ denotes the correlation between predictor variables x_{ik} and $x_{ik'}$, which is
the element in the correlation matrix Σ .

The ratio $\beta_1:\beta_2:\cdots:\beta_K$ can be ascertained from pilot study, published results from a 924 similar study, and can be estimated based on the expert's advice and the prior knowledge 925 of the field. If hypotheses \mathcal{H}_a and \mathcal{H}_1 are considered, and the ratio $\beta_1:\beta_2:\cdots:\beta_K=1:1:\cdots:1$, then $\beta_1=\beta_2=\cdots=\beta_K$. For hypothesis $H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K$ itself, the relation of the regression coefficients is also $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K$. By substituting R^2 , Σ , $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_K$ into Equation 13, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_K$ can be derived. If hypotheses H_2 is considered, and the ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 : \dots : \beta_K = r_1 : r_2 : \dots : r_K$, then $\beta_1 = r_1/r_K\beta_K$, $\beta_2 = r_2/r_K\beta_K$, ..., $\beta_{K-1} = r_{K-1}/r_K\beta_K$. By substituting R^2 , Σ , $\beta_1 = r_1/r_K\beta_K$, $\beta_2 = r_2/r_K\beta_K$, \cdots , $\beta_{K-1} = r_{K-1}/r_K\beta_K$ into Equation 13, β_K can be derived. Subsequently, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_{K-1}$ can be obtained. It should be noted that the default signs of the regression coefficients are 934 positive for all the hypotheses, unless they are designated to be negative in the hypotheses. 935 It will now be explained how the population regression coefficients for the complement of 936

 H_1 will be determined. Changing the sign of the regression coefficients once is called a

violation. The number of violations is determined by the number of the signs of regression

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coefficients changed. The complement hypothesis of H_1 can be divided into K categories 939 based on the number of violations. That is, if K predictors are considered, there will be K940 categories, namely one deviation from H_1 , two violations from H_1, \dots, K violations from 941 H_1 . To facilitate the reader's understanding of the proposed approach, two examples are 942 provided with two and five predictors. Firstly, this paper discusses the simplest situation 943 where only two predictors are needed. In this situation, the hypothesis H_1 can be 944 expressed as $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0$. The complement of H_1 with two predictors includes the 945 following three cases: 946 $H_{c1}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0.$ 947 $H_{c2}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0.$ $H_{c3}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0.$ In the above three cases, the hypotheses H_{c1} and H_{c2} have one thing in common. They have one violation from H_1 . The order could also be H_{c2} , H_{c1} , and H_{c3} , since the Bayes factor $BF_{c1,1}$ for H_{c1} versus H_1 if data are simulated from populations H_{c1} and $BF_{c2,1}$ for H_{c2} versus H_1 if data are simulated from populations H_{c2} are almost the same. That is, 953 there is no preference for one of these two hypotheses. Different from these two hypotheses, 954 the hypothesis H_{c3} has two violations. The more numbers of violations in the complement 955 of H_1 , the easier it is to distinguish the complement hypothesis from the hypothesis H_1 . 956 Therefore, the Bayes factor $BF_{c3,1}$ for H_{c3} versus H_1 if data are simulated from population 957 H_{c3} is larger than the $BF_{c1,1}$ and $BF_{c2,1}$ if data are simulated from populations H_{c1} and 958 H_{c2} , respectively. To determine the regression coefficients for the complement of H_1 , a 959 representative hypothesis has to be selected. In this paper, the hypothesis corresponding to 960

Based on the ratio β_1 : $\beta_2=1:1$ for H_1 , the relation of the regression coefficients under the

Bayes factors which are ordered using the number of violations.

the median of the number of hypotheses ordered using the number of violations is selected

as the representative hypothesis of the complement hypothesis of H_1 , in this case, H_{c2} . The

measure of median is used because it refers to the most central value in the ascending

- complement hypothesis H_{1c} is $\beta_2 = -\beta_1$, where $\beta_1 > 0$. By substituting R^2 , ρ , and
- $\beta_2 = -\beta_1$ into Equation 13, the regression coefficients can be calculated.
- ⁹⁶⁸ To further clarify the proposed method, a more complex scenario with five predictors is
- discussed. The hypothesis H_1 can be expressed as $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0$.
- To find the hypothesis representative of the complement of H_1 , all the possible hypotheses
- 971 in the complement are ordered using the number of violations. First, only one violation is
- considered. The number of hypotheses in this case will be $\binom{5}{1}$. In other words, five
- 973 hypotheses should be considered if one violation happens:
- 974 $H_{c1}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 975 $H_{c2}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 976 $H_{c3}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 977 $H_{c4}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 978 $H_{c5}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$
- 979 It should be noted that the order is arbitrary, and any permutation would also be
- acceptable. The order is irrelevant because all hypothesis containing one violation will lead
- ₉₈₁ to about the same Bayes factors $BF_{ci,1}$ for H_{ci} versus H_1 if data are simulated from
- populations H_{ci} ($i=1,\cdots,5$), respectively. Similarly, in the following, permutations are
- $_{\rm 983}$ $\,$ also arbitrary for the same number of violations.
- If there are two violations in a hypothesis, the total number of hypotheses will be $\binom{5}{2}$, that
- is ten. We name these hypotheses as H_{c6} , H_{c7} ,...and H_{c15} , which are given as:
- 986 $H_{c6}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 987 $H_{c7}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 988 $H_{c8}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 989 $H_{c9}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$
- 990 $H_{c10}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$
- 991 $H_{c11}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$

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$$H_{c12}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

993
$$H_{c13}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

994
$$H_{c14}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

995
$$H_{c15}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

Similarly, there are $\binom{5}{3}$ (ten) hypotheses with three violations, which are shown as:

997
$$H_{c16}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

998
$$H_{c17}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

999
$$H_{c18}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1000
$$H_{c19}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

1001
$$H_{c20}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1002
$$H_{c21}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

$$H_{c22}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1004
$$H_{c23}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1005
$$H_{c24}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

$$H_{c25}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

There are $\binom{5}{4}$ (five) hypotheses with four violations, which are displayed as follows.

$$H_{c26}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 > 0.$$

1009
$$H_{c27}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 > 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1010
$$H_{c28}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1011
$$H_{c29}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

$$H_{c30}: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

Finally, the hypotheses with five violations only have $\binom{5}{5}$ (one) case, which is given as

$$H_{c31}: \beta_1 < 0 \& \beta_2 < 0 \& \beta_3 < 0 \& \beta_4 < 0 \& \beta_5 < 0.$$

1015

As mentioned in the last example, the Bayes factor $BF_{1c,1}$ for H_{1c} versus H_1 increases with

the number of violations. There are totally
$$\binom{5}{1} + \binom{5}{2} + \binom{5}{3} + \binom{5}{4} + \binom{5}{5} = 2^5 - 1 = 31$$

hypothesis for the complement of H_1 . After all the hypotheses are presented, the

representative hypothesis H_{c16} is selected, which is the hypothesis corresponding the 1019 median of the hypotheses ordered using the number of violations. Based on the ratio β_1 : 1020 β_2 : β_3 : β_4 : β_5 =1:1:1:1:1 for H_1 , the relation of the regression coefficients under the 1021 complement hypothesis H_{1c} is $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = -\beta_4 = -\beta_5$, where β_4 and β_5 are larger than 1022 zero. By substituting R^2 , ρ , and $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = -\beta_4 = -\beta_5$ into Equation 13, the 1023 regression coefficients can be calculated. 1024 In summary, we can conclude that the complement hypotheses of H_1 include 1025 $\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2} + \dots + \binom{k}{k} = 2^k - 1$ cases. The hypothesis corresponding to the median number of 1026 $\{1,\,2,\,\cdots,\,2^k-1\}$ (i.e., the hypothesis $H_{2^{k-1}}$) is selected as representative of the 1027 complement hypothesis of H_1 . If the ratio $\beta_1:\beta_2:\cdots:\beta_K=1:1:\cdots:1$, then 1028 $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_{K-1} = \beta_K$. By substituting R^2 , Σ , $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \cdots = \beta_{K-1} = \beta_K$ into Equation 1029 13, β_K can be derived. Subsequently, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \cdots, \beta_{K-1}$ can be obtained. The default signs 1030 of the regression coefficients are positive for all the hypotheses at first. If the signs of the 1031 regression coefficients are negative in the representative hypothesis, they will be finally 1032 designated to be negative. 1033 Another issue that needs to be addressed is how to calculate the regression coefficients for 1034 the complement of H_2 . Firstly, with two predictors H_2 is given as $\beta_1 > \beta_2$. There is only 1035 one hypothesis for the complement of H_2 , namely H_{c1} : $\beta_1 < \beta_2$. There is no doubt that H_{c1} 1036 can be regarded as the representative hypothesis. Based on Table 1, if H_2 is true, the ratio 1037 β_1 : β_2 =2:1 for H_2 . The relation of the regression coefficients under the complement 1038 hypothesis H_{2c} is β_1 : $\beta_2=1:2$, where β_1 and β_2 are larger than zero. By substituting R^2 , ρ , 1039 and β_1 : $\beta_2=1:2$ into Equation 13, the regression coefficients can be calculated. 1040 In following examples, swapping the regression coefficients of adjacent positions once is 1041 called a violation. The number of violations is determined by the number of the regression 1042 coefficients of adjacent positions swapped. This process can be described as follows. For 1043 the convenience of description, a specific example is used to illustrated. For example, 1044

 $H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$ is considered, β_1 and β_2 are at adjacent positions, and β_2 and β_3 are also

at adjacent positions. After swapping adjacent positions β_1 and β_2 , a new order

 $H_{c1}: \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_3$ can be obtained. In the new order, β_1 and β_3 are at adjacent positions.

Swap them, and a new order can be obtained again, which is $H_{c2}: \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_1$. By

swapping adjacent positions β_2 and β_3 , the order $H_{c3}: \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_1$ can be obtained.

During this process, the adjacent positions are swapped for three times. Therefore, there

are three violations from $H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$ to H_{c3} . The complement hypothesis of H_2 can

be divided into $\binom{K}{2}$ categories based on the number of violations. For three or more

predictors, there is more than one hypothesis for the complement of H_2 . Therefore, all the

possible hypotheses should be considered and a representative one should be selected. For

three predictors, there are three categories for the complement hypothesis of H_2 , namely

one violation from H_2 , two violations from H_2 , and three violations from H_2 . There are

two hypotheses with one violation:

1058
$$H_{c1}: \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_3.$$

1059
$$H_{c2}: \beta_1 > \beta_3 > \beta_2.$$

 $_{1060}\,\,$ There are two hypotheses containing two violations:

1061
$$H_{c3}: \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_1.$$

1062
$$H_{c4}: \beta_3 > \beta_1 > \beta_2.$$

 $_{1063}\,\,$ There is only one hypothesis with three violations:

1064
$$H_{c5}: \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_1.$$

 $_{1065}$ As the Bayes factor $\mathrm{BF}_{2c,2}$ for H_{2c} versus H_2 becomes larger with an increasing number of

violations, the hypothesis corresponding the median of the number of hypotheses ordered

using the number of violations $(H_{c3}: \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_1)$ is selected as the hypothesis

representing the complement of H_2 . Based on Table 1, if H_2 is true, the ratio β_1 : β_2 :

 $\beta_3=3:2:1$ for H_2 . The relation of the regression coefficients under the complement

hypothesis H_c is β_1 : β_2 : $\beta_3=1:3:2$ (reordered using H_{c3} : $\beta_2>\beta_3>\beta_1$), where β_1,β_2 , and

 β_3 are larger than zero. By substituting R^2 , ρ , and β_1 : β_2 : $\beta_3=1:3:2$ into Equation 13, the

- 1072 regression coefficients can be calculated.
- 1073 In order to better summarize the rule of the selection of the representative hypothesis, the
- situation with four predictors $H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4$ is further discussed. The hypotheses
- with one, two, three and four violations are:
- 1076 One violation:

1077
$$H_{c1}: \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_3 > \beta_4.$$

1078
$$H_{c2}: \beta_1 > \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_4.$$

1079
$$H_{c3}: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_4 > \beta_3.$$

1080 two violations:

1081
$$H_{c4}: \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_1 > \beta_4.$$

1082
$$H_{c5}: \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_3.$$

1083
$$H_{c6}: \beta_3 > \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_4.$$

1084
$$H_{c7}: \beta_1 > \beta_3 > \beta_4 > \beta_2.$$

1085
$$H_{c8}: \beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$$
.

three violations:

1087
$$H_{c9}: \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_4.$$

1088
$$H_{c10}: \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4 > \beta_1.$$

1089
$$H_{c11}: \beta_3 > \beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_2.$$

1090
$$H_{c12}: \beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_2.$$

1091
$$H_{c13}: \beta_4 > \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3.$$

1092 four violations:

1093
$$H_{c14}: \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_4 > \beta_1.$$

1094
$$H_{c15}: \beta_2 > \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_1.$$

1095
$$H_{c16}: \beta_3 > \beta_4 > \beta_1 > \beta_2.$$

1096
$$H_{c17}: \beta_4 > \beta_1 > \beta_3 > \beta_2.$$

1097
$$H_{c18}: \beta_4 > \beta_2 > \beta_1 > \beta_3.$$

1098 five violations:

```
1099 H_{c19}: \beta_3 > \beta_4 > \beta_1 > \beta_2.
1100 H_{c20}: \beta_4 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_1.
1101 H_{c21}: \beta_2 > \beta_4 > \beta_1 > \beta_3.
1102 H_{c22}: \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_1 > \beta_2.
1103 six violations:
1104 H_{c23}: \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_2 > \beta_1.
1105 Overall, there are 23 hyp
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Overall, there are 23 hypotheses for the complement of H_2 . Similarly, the hypothesis corresponding to the median of the number of hypotheses ordered using the number of violations $(H_{c12}: \beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_2)$ is recommended as the representative hypothesis of the complement hypothesis of H_2 . Based on Table 1, if H_2 is true, the ratio β_1 : β_2 : β_3 : β_4 =4:3:2:1 for H_2 . The relation of the regression coefficients under the complement hypothesis H_{2c} is β_1 : β_2 : β_3 : β_4 =4:1:2:3 (reordered using H_{c12} : $\beta_1 > \beta_4 > \beta_3 > \beta_2$), where β_1 , β_2 , β_3 and β_4 are larger than zero. By substituting R^2 , ρ , and β_1 : β_2 : β_3 : β_4 =4:1:2:3 into Equation 13, the regression coefficients can be calculated.

By summarizing the current examples, the total number of hypotheses in the complement of H_2 is K!-1. The hypothesis corresponding to the median of the number of hypotheses ordered using the number of violations (i.e., the hypothesis $H_{K!/2}$) can be selected as the representative hypothesis. If the ratio $\beta_1:\beta_2:\dots:\beta_K=r_1:r_2:\dots:r_K$ for H_2 , the ratio of the complement hypothesis of H_2 would be obtained based on the order of hypothesis $H_{K!/2}$. By substituting R^2 , Σ , and the ratio of the complement hypothesis into Equation 113, β_K can be derived. Subsequently, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_{K-1}$ can be obtained.

Some researchers may recommend placing the regression coefficients under the complement of H_1/H_2 on the boundary of H_1/H_2 (set all regression coefficients equal to 0). Although the boundary value does not belong to H_1 or H_2 , it is the closest value to H_1 or H_2 . However, the value of the Bayes factors $BF_{1c,1}$ for H_{1c} versus H_1 or $BF_{2c,2}$ for H_{2c} versus H_2 would be always around 1 no matter how large the sample size is. That is, neither hypothesis is preferred over the other. Therefore, SSD cannot be performed if the regression coefficients for the complement are based on the boundary of the parameter space of H_1 or H_2 .

Table 1 Chosen population values for the regression coefficients in the multivariate linear model with two predictors.

	$\rho =$	= 0	$\rho =$	0.2	$\rho = 0.5$		
	β_1	β_2	β_1	β_2	β_1	β_2	
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$	0	0	0	0	0	0	
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2$	0.255	0.255	0.233	0.233	0.208	0.208	
H_a	0.255	0.255	0.233	0.233	0.208	0.208	
H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0$	0.255	0.255	0.233	0.233	0.208	0.208	
H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2$	0.322	0.161	0.299	0.150	0.272	0.136	
H_{1c}	-0.255	0.255	-0.233	0.233	-0.208	0.208	
H_{2c}	0.161	0.322	0.150	0.299	0.136	0.272	

Note: For H_1 and H_a , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1: \beta_2 = 1:1$ is used. For hypothesis H_2 , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1: \beta_2 = 2:1$ is used.

Table 2 Chosen population values for the regression coefficients in the multivariate linear model with three predictors.

	$\rho = 0$				$\rho = 0.2$		$\rho = 0.5$			
	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_1	β_2	β_3	
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3$	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.147	0.147	0.147	
H_a	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.147	0.147	0.147	
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.147	0.147	0.147	
$H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$	0.289	0.193	0.096	0.252	0.168	0.084	0.216	0.144	0.072	
H_{1c}	-0.208	-0.208	0.208	-0.176	-0.176	0.176	-0.147	-0.147	0.147	
H_{2c}	0.096	0.289	0.193	0.084	0.252	0.168	0.072	0.216	0.144	

For H_1 and H_a , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1:\beta_2:\beta_3=1:1:1$ is used. For hypothesis H_2 , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1:\beta_2:\beta_3=3:2:1$ is used.

Table 3
Chosen population values for the regression coefficients in the multivariate linear model with four predictors.

	$\rho = 0$				$\rho = 0.2$				$\rho = 0.5$			
	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4	β_1	β_2	β_3	β_4
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4$	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114
H_a	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114
H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0$	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114
$H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4$	0.263	0.197	0.132	0.066	0.217	0.163	0.109	0.054	0.179	0.134	0.089	0.045
H_{1c}	-0.180	-0.180	0.180	0.180	-0.142	-0.142	0.142	0.142	-0.114	-0.114	0.114	0.114
H_{2c}	0.132	0.263	0.066	0.197	0.109	0.217	0.054	0.163	0.089	0.179	0.045	0.134

For H_1 and H_a , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1:\beta_2:\beta_3:\beta_4=1:1:1:1$ is used. For hypothesis H_2 , the ratio of the regression $\beta_1:\beta_2:\beta_3:\beta_4=4:3:2:1$ is used.

Table 4
The required sample size and the corresponding probability that the Bayes factor is larger than 3 when the BF_{thresh} = 3, $\eta = 0.8$, $R^2 = 0.13$, ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 = 1 : 1$ for H_a and H_1 , ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 = 2 : 1$ for H_2 and the number of predictors is 2.

			- 0			- 0.9			- 0.5	
			$\rho = 0$			$\rho = 0.2$			$\rho = 0.5$	
		b = J/N	b=2J/N	b = 3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b = 3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b = 3J/N
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$	p_0	0.948	0.880	0.801	0.948	0.881	0.801	0.948	0.881	0.801
	N	121 (122)	104 (105)	95 (96)	121 (122)	105 (104)	93 (93)	121 (122)	105 (106)	93 (93)
H_a	p_a	0.804	0.800	0.804	0.804	0.805	0.802	0.804	0.805	0.802
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2$	p_0	0.962	0.944	0.931	0.973	0.955	0.944	0.980	0.971	0.961
	N	887 (889)	816 (815)	775 (773)	1326 (1328)	1221 (1220)	1176 (1176)	2721 (2725)	$2527\ (2525)$	2426 (2426)
H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2$	p_2	0.802	0.804	0.800	0.806	0.805	0.801	0.804	0.805	0.801
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$	p_0	0.939	0.862	0.805	0.940	0.862	0.804	0.938	0.860	0.803
	N	90 (92)	74(72)	71 (70)	88 (88)	71 (73)	71 (70)	86 (88)	70 (71)	69 (69)
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0$	p_1	0.802	0.811	0.837	0.808	0.805	0.843	0.804	0.805	0.842
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0$	p_1		0.950			0.968			0.987	
	N		60 (60)			79 (77)			134 (133)	
H_{1c} : not H_1	p_{1c}		0.802			0.800			0.804	
H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2$	p_2		0.804			0.812			0.801	
	N		163 (162)			235 (233)			438 (435)	
H_{2c} : not H_2	p_{2c}		0.808			0.800			0.800	

The correlation between the predictors is denoted as ρ , where ρ is chosen as 0, 0.2 or 0.5, respectively in this table. The prior distributions with different b are used to perform a sensitivity analysis. It should be noted that b is not relevant for the evaluation of H_1 and H_2 versus their respective complements. The symbol p_i denotes the probability that the Bayes factor supports H_i when H_i is true, where i = 0, 1, 2, a, 1c, 2c. The sample size values in the parentheses is calculated with the set-seed 1234. Comparing the values without and within parenthesis shows that using T=10,000 renders stable sample size estimates.

Table 5
The required sample size and the corresponding probability that the Bayes factor is larger than 3 when the BF_{thresh} = 3, $\eta = 0.8$, $R^2 = 0.13$, ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 : \beta_3 = 1 : 1 : 1$ for H_a and H_1 , ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 : \beta_3 = 3 : 2 : 1$ for H_2 and the number of the predictors is 3.

		$\rho = 0$				$\rho = 0.2$		$\rho = 0.5$			
		b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N	
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$	p_0	0.974	0.909	0.831	0.973	0.918	0.840	0.973	0.918	0.840	
	N	148	119	104	146	120	105	146	120	105	
H_a	p_a	0.809	0.806	0.805	0.803	0.804	0.806	0.803	0.804	0.806	
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3$	p_0	0.993	0.983	0.976	0.995	0.992	0.986	0.998	0.996	0.993	
	N	776	675	624	1350	1210	1124	3301	2981	2794	
H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$	p_2	0.803	0.806	0.803	0.802	0.804	0.801	0.802	0.804	0.800	
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$	p_0	0.964	0.879	0.811	0.964	0.887	0.809	0.968	0.899	0.806	
	N	100	71	66	98	71	62	94	69	59	
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$	p_1	0.802	0.802	0.833	0.807	0.802	0.833	0.802	0.801	0.825	
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$	p_1		0.801			0.809			0.809		
	N		35			40			47		
H_{1c} : not H_1	p_{1c}		0.833			0.827			0.814		
H_2 : $\beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3$	p_2		0.801			0.801			0.808		
	N		254			410			882		
H_{2c} : not H_2	p_{2c}		0.909			0.909			0.901		

The correlation between the predictors is denoted as ρ , where ρ is chosen as 0, 0.2 or 0.5, respectively in this table. The prior distributions with different b are used to perform a sensitivity analysis. It should be noted that b is not relevant for the evaluation of H_1 and H_2 versus their respective complements. The symbol p_i denotes the probability that the Bayes factor supports H_i when H_i is true, where i = 0, 1, 2, a, 1c, 2c.

Table 6
The required sample size and the corresponding probability that the Bayes factor is larger than 3 when the BF_{thresh} = 3, $\eta = 0.8$, $R^2 = 0.13$, ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 : \beta_3 : \beta_4 = 1 : 1 : 1 : 1$ for H_a and H_1 , ratio $\beta_1 : \beta_2 : \beta_3 : \beta_4 = 4 : 3 : 2 : 1$ for H_2 and the number of the predictors is 4.

			$\rho = 0$			$\rho = 0.2$			$\rho = 0.5$	
		b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N	b = J/N	b=2J/N	b=3J/N
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$	p_0	0.986	0.934	0.840	0.984	0.935	0.840	0.984	0.935	0.840
	N	173	134	109	172	135	109	172	135	109
H_a	p_a	0.813	0.803	0.800	0.808	0.805	0.800	0.808	0.805	0.800
$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4$	p_0	0.998	0.993	0.989	0.999	0.998	0.996	0.999	0.999	0.998
	N	762	652	583	1580	1373	1257	4298	3901	3580
$H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4$	p_2	0.800	0.803	0.805	0.802	0.800	0.800	0.801	0.807	0.810
H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$	p_0	0.982	0.896	0.800	0.980	0.905	0.805	0.981	0.906	0. 809
	N	109	72	65	103	70	61	102	67	56
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0$	p_1	0.800	0.804	0.859	0.807	0.806	0.855	0.806	0.803	0.844
$H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0$	p_1		0.892			0.948			0.986	
	N		56			83			167	
H_{1c} : not H_1	p_{1c}		0.805			0.802			0.803	
$H_2: \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \beta_3 > \beta_4$	p_2		0.803			0.802			0.802	
	N		272			488			1148	
H_{2c} : not H_2	p_{2c}		0.860			0.854			0.857	

The correlation between the predictors is denoted as ρ , where ρ is chosen as 0, 0.2 or 0.5, respectively in this table. The prior distributions with different b are used to perform a sensitivity analysis. It should be noted that b is not relevant for the evaluation of H_1 and H_2 versus their respective complements. The symbol p_i denotes the probability that the Bayes factor supports H_i when H_i is true, where i = 0, 1, 2, a, 1c, 2c.

Table 7 Comparison between classical sample size determined using power=0.8, $\alpha = 0.05$, $f^2 = 0.15$ and the Bayesian sample size determined using $\eta = 0.8$, $BF_{thresh} = 3$, $R^2 = 0.13$, the ratio between each pair of coefficients is 1:1.

K=2		classical		68			
	$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0 \text{ vs } H_a$	Bayesian	b = J/N	b = 2J/N	b = 3J/N		
		Dayesian	121	104	95		
	H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = 0$ vs H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0$	Bayesian	90	74	71		
K = 3		classical					
	H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0$ vs H_a	Darragian	b = J/N	b = 2J/N	b = 3J/N		
N = 0		Bayesian	148	119	104		
	$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 0 \text{ vs } H_1: \beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0$	Bayesian	100	71	66		
		classical	85				
K=4	$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0 \text{ vs } H_a$	Di	b = J/N	b = 2J/N	b = 3J/N		
		Bayesian	173	134	109		
	H_0 : $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \beta_4 = 0$ vs H_1 : $\beta_1 > 0 \& \beta_2 > 0 \& \beta_3 > 0 \& \beta_4 > 0$	Bayesian	109	72	65		