

Clarification for Cutoff

Problem Statement

We are dealing with a scenario where we have conducted $N = 144$ independent tests. Each test has a probability $P(Y_i = 1) = p_0 = 0.1$ of being significant just by chance. We want to determine the minimum number of tests, n , that need to be significant to ensure that the observed significance is not just due to chance, under a specified error probability e (e.g., $e = 0.1$ or $e = 0.05$).

*In terms of the “consistency” you’ve mentioned, it should be $e = p_0 = 0.1$

Statistical Approach

The sum of significant tests, $S = \sum_{i=1}^N Y_i$, follows a binomial distribution $\text{Bin}(N = 144, p_0 = 0.1)$. We aim to find the cutoff n such that the probability of having more than n significant tests by chance is less than the error probability e . Mathematically, this is represented as:

$$P(S > n) = 1 - P(S \leq n) < e$$

Thus, we need to find n such that:

$$P(S \leq n) \geq 1 - e$$

In the context of a binomial distribution, this probability can be calculated as:

$$P(S \leq n) = F_S(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \binom{144}{i} \times 0.1^i \times 0.9^{144-i}$$

Calculation in R

In R, we can use the `qbinom` function to find this cutoff n . The function `qbinom` is used to find the quantile function of the binomial distribution. The parameters for `qbinom` in our case are:

- `p`: The cumulative probability, which is $1 - e$.
- `size`: The number of trials, which is $N = 144$.
- `prob`: The probability of success on each trial, which is $p_0 = 0.1$.

The R code to calculate n is:

```
e <- 0.1 # or 0.05, depending on the error probability
p <- 1 - e
size <- 144
prob <- 0.1
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 19
```

“n=21” is got by setting e=0.05, while keeping prob=0.1:

```
e <- 0.05
p <- 1 - e
size <- 144
prob <- 0.1
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 21
```

The previous “n=12” is got by setting e=0.05, prob=0.05, and size=126: (I added 1 to the outcome, since the n is the value which S should be **greater** than, see the formula $P(S > n) = 1 - P(S \leq n) < e$; so in this way, for previous 2 cases, the cutoffs should be 20 and 22)

```
e <- 0.05
p <- 1 - e
size <- 126
prob <- 0.05
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 11
```

October memo version

N=126, i.e., size=126

```
e <- 0.1
p <- 1 - e
size <- 126 # Adjusted number of tests
prob <- 0.1
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 17
```

Cutoff should be 17 or 17+1=18.

Another Way of Thinking

There is something interesting:

We are particularly interested in tests that include specific significant variables, i.e., FTR_ratio_sAPPb_sAPPa or FCR_ratio_sAPPb_sAPPa. It turns out that only 4 independent model configurations contain these variables:

Independent Variable Combinations (16):

1. (cct_sAPPB)
2. (pdr_sAPPB)
3. (cct_sAPPA, cct_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
4. (pdr_sAPPA, pdr_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
5. (cct_sAPPB, cct_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
6. (pdr_sAPPB, pdr_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
7. (cct_sAPPB, cct_ratio_sAPPB_totalAb)
8. (pdr_sAPPB, pdr_ratio_sAPPB_totalAb)
9. (FTR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
10. (FCR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
11. (FTR_sAPPB, FTR_ratio_sAPPB_Ab40, dlt_sAPPB, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_Ab40)
12. (FCR_sAPPB, FCR_ratio_sAPPB_Ab40, dlt_sAPPB, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_Ab40)
13. (FTR_sAPPA, FTR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_sAPPA, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
14. (FCR_sAPPA, FCR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_sAPPA, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
15. (FTR_sAPPB, FTR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_sAPPB, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)
16. (FCR_sAPPB, FCR_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA, dlt_sAPPB, dlt_ratio_sAPPB_sAPPA)

So the total number of relevant tests is reduced to $N = \text{control} \times \text{independent} = 9 \times 4 = 36$.

Then $S = \sum_{i=1}^N Y_i$ follows a binomial distribution $\text{Bin}(N = 36, p_0 = 0.1)$

The R code to calculate the new cutoff n with the adjusted total number of tests is:

```
e <- 0.05
p <- 1 - e
size <- 36 # Adjusted number of tests
prob <- 0.1
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 7
```

So the cutoff is $n=6$ or $n'=6+1=7$ now. (It is the same case for October's version, since configurations concerning FTR and FCR haven't been changed.)

```
e <- 0.05
p <- 1 - e
size <- 36 # Adjusted number of tests
prob <- 0.1
n <- qbinom(p, size, prob)

print(n)
```

```
## [1] 7
```