

Module 2: Completely Randomized Designs

Pairwise Comparisons

What Are Pairwise Comparisons?

Which treatment means differ from each other?

Pairwise comparisons test:

- μ_1 vs μ_2
- μ_1 vs μ_3
- μ_2 vs μ_3

For t treatments, there are: $\binom{t}{2} = \frac{t(t-1)}{2}$ possible pairwise comparisons.

Example 2.1: Running Shoes

Response: Lap time (seconds)

Treatment structure:

- One-way
- Factor: Shoe type
- 3 Levels: control, lightweight, and stability
- $t = 3$

Experimental structure:

- CRD
- Experimental Unit: Individual ($r = 2$)
- Measurement Unit: Individual ($N = 6$)

Example 2.1: Shoes

With $t = 3$ shoe types:

- Control vs Lightweight ($H_0 : \mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$)
- Control vs Stability ($H_0 : \mu_1 - \mu_3 = 0$)
- Lightweight vs Stability ($H_0 : \mu_2 - \mu_3 = 0$)

That's _____ comparisons.

Pairwise Comparisons as Contrasts

Each pairwise comparison is a contrast:

- Control vs Lightweight: $C = (1, -1, 0)$
- Control vs Stability: $C = (1, 0, -1)$
- Lightweight vs Stability: $C = (0, 1, -1)$

The Multiple Testing Problem

Each comparison is a valid t-test.

But performing *many tests* increases the chance of a:

- Type I error (false positive)

This is called the *family-wise error rate*.

Why Error Rates Inflate

Suppose each test uses $\alpha = 0.05$. Then:

- Probability of *no* false positives (i.e., correctly fail to reject the null):
$$1 - \alpha = 1 - 0.05 = 0.95$$
- Assuming independence, the probability of all tests leading to *no* false positives: $(1 - \alpha)^{\# \text{ tests}} = (0.95)^3 = 0.857$
- Probability of *at least one* false positive (i.e., a Type I error):
$$1 - [(1 - \alpha)^{\# \text{ tests}}] = 1 - 0.857 = 0.143.$$

Note this increases with the number of tests.

What We Need

When doing many comparisons, we want to:

- Control the overall Type I error rate
- While still detecting real differences

Post Hoc Tests: adjustments to the p-values (making them larger) and/or confidence intervals (making them wider).

Fisher's Protected LSD

1. First perform the overall ANOVA F-test
2. Only if F is significant, perform all pairwise t-tests

Note: From the ANOVA on Example 2.1 Shoe Types: ($F = 21.5$; $df = 2,3$; $p = 0.017$)

```
1 library(emmeans)
2 shoe_lsmeans <- emmeans(shoe_mod, specs = ~ Shoe)
3 pairs(shoe_lsmeans, infer = c(TRUE, TRUE), adjust = "none")
```

```
contrast      estimate SE df lower.CL upper.CL t.ratio p.value
Control - Lightweight   -8 2 3    -14.36    -1.64   -4.000  0.0280
Control - Stability      5 2 3     -1.36    11.36    2.500  0.0877
Lightweight - Stability   13 2 3      6.64    19.36    6.500  0.0074
```

Confidence level used: 0.95

```
1 library(multcomp)
2 cld(shoe_lsmeans, adjust = "none", Letters = LETTERS, decreasing = T)
```

```
Shoe      emmean   SE df lower.CL upper.CL .group
Lightweight  69 1.41 3    64.5    73.5 A
Control     61 1.41 3    56.5    65.5 B
Stability    56 1.41 3    51.5    60.5 B
```

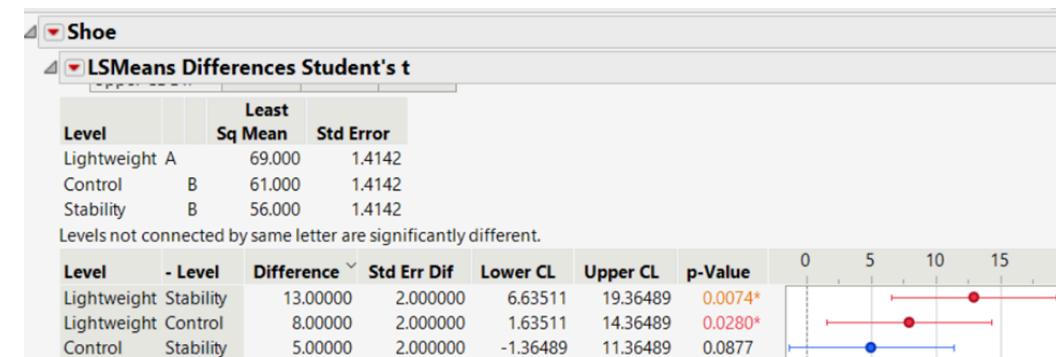
Confidence level used: 0.95

significance level used: alpha = 0.05

NOTE: If two or more means share the same grouping symbol,
then we cannot show them to be different.

But we also did not show them to be the same.

- Shoe > LSMeans Student's t
- LSMeans Differences Student's t > Ordered Differences Report



Tukey's Honestly Significant Difference (HSD)

- Designed specifically for *all* pairwise comparisons
- Controls family-wise error rate

```
1 library(emmeans)
2 shoe_lsmeans <- emmeans(shoe_mod, specs = ~ Shoe)
3 pairs(shoe_lsmeans, infer = c(TRUE, TRUE), adjust = "tukey")
```

contrast estimate SE df lower.CL upper.CL t.ratio p.value
Control - Lightweight -8 2 3 -16.36 0.358 -4.000 0.0560
Control - Stability 5 2 3 -3.36 13.358 2.500 0.1681
Lightweight - Stability 13 2 3 4.64 21.358 6.500 0.0151

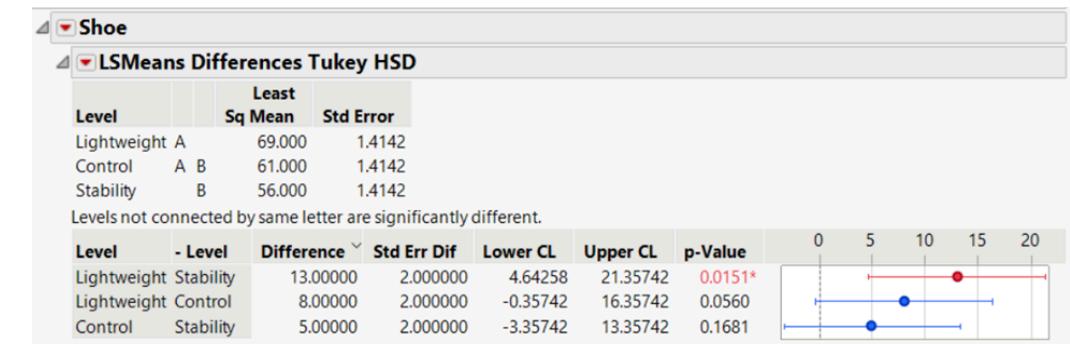
Confidence level used: 0.95
Conf-level adjustment: tukey method for comparing a family of 3 estimates
P value adjustment: tukey method for comparing a family of 3 estimates

```
1 cld(shoe_lsmeans, adjust = "tukey", Letters = LETTERS, decreasing = T)
```

Shoe emmean SE df lower.CL upper.CL .group
Lightweight 69 1.41 3 62.2 75.8 A
Control 61 1.41 3 54.2 67.8 AB
Stability 56 1.41 3 49.2 62.8 B

Confidence level used: 0.95
Conf-level adjustment: sidak method for 3 estimates
P value adjustment: tukey method for comparing a family of 3 estimates
significance level used: alpha = 0.05
NOTE: If two or more means share the same grouping symbol,
then we cannot show them to be different.
But we also did not show them to be the same.

► Shoe > LSMeans Tukey HSD
► LSMeans Differences Tukey HSD > Ordered Differences Report



Bonferroni Adjustment

Bonferroni controls error by:

- Using a smaller significance level

$$\alpha^* = \frac{\alpha}{\text{number of tests}}$$

Simple, but often conservative.

Dunnet's Test

Useful when interest lies in comparing all treatments to a control.

Shoe > LSMeans Dunnet > Choose Level (Control)

The screenshot shows the RStudio interface. On the left, there is an R script pane containing the following code:

```
1 library(emmeans)
2 shoe_lsmeans <- emmeans(shoe_mod, specs = ~ Shoe)
3 contrast(shoe_lsmeans,
4   method = "trt.vs.ctrl", # Treatment vs. control contrast
5   adjust = "dunnett", # Dunnett adjustment
6   infer = c(TRUE, TRUE),
7   ref = "Control"
8 )
```

Below the code, the R console pane displays the results of the Dunnett's test:

contrast	estimate	SE	df	lower.CL	upper.CL	t.ratio	p.value
Lightweight - Control	8	2	3	0.0241	15.98	4.000	0.0496
Stability - Control	-5	2	3	-12.9759	2.98	-2.500	0.1511

At the bottom of the console, the following information is shown:

Confidence level used: 0.95
Conf-level adjustment: dunnettx method for 2 estimates
P value adjustment: dunnettx method for 2 tests

The screenshot shows the SPSS Statistics interface. On the right, there is a dialog box titled "Choose Control Level" with the following options:

- Control (selected)
- Lightweight
- Stability

Below the dialog, the SPSS output window displays the results of the Dunnett's test:

LSMeans Differences Dunnett

Level	- Level	Difference	Std Err Dif	Lower CL	Upper CL	p-Value
Lightweight	Control	8.00000	2.00000	0.2673	15.73268	0.0458*
Stability	Control	-5.00000	2.00000	-12.7327	2.73268	0.1405