

# SNP agging conditions

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Let  $Z_o$  be the observed  $Z$  scores for the joint 3-SNP model, with  $Z_o \sim N(Z_M, \Sigma)$ ,  $Z_M = \Sigma Z_J$ . We are interested in evaluating plausibility of situations in which we would be forced to conclude that SNP 3 is the causal one. Two situations are possible: SNPs 1 and 2 are casual with  $Z_J = z_J = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2, 0)'$ , or SNP 3 is causal with  $Z_J = \tilde{z}_J := (0, 0, \tilde{\zeta})'$ . Likelihood of SNP 3 being causal is larger than the likelihood of SNPs 1 and 2 being causal when

$$2(\tilde{\zeta}z_3^o - \zeta_1z_1^o - \zeta_2z_2^o) + \zeta_1^2 + \zeta_2^2 - \tilde{\zeta}^2 + 2\zeta_1\zeta_2r_{12} > 0. \quad (1)$$

## SNPs 1 and 2 are causal

We assume  $\zeta_1 = \zeta_2 := \zeta$  and  $\tilde{\zeta} = \zeta(r_1 + r_2)$  and calculate the probability of the condition (1) above being satisfied as

$$1 - \Phi\left(\frac{1}{2}|\zeta|\sqrt{2(1 + r_{12}) - (r_1 + r_2)^2}\right).$$

Additionally conditions

$$\begin{aligned} -2r_1r_2r_{12} + r_1^2 + r_2^2 + r_{12}^2 &\leq 1 \\ r_1 + r_2 &< \sqrt{2(1 + r_{12})}. \end{aligned}$$

must be satisfied.

Suppose  $r_{12} = 0$ . Then the above conditions reduce to

$$\begin{aligned} r_1^2 + r_2^2 &\leq 1 \\ r_1 + r_2 &\leq \sqrt{2}. \end{aligned}$$

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r <- seq(-1, 1, by = 0.01)
dat <- expand.grid(r1 = r, r2 = r)

plot(c(-2, 2), c(-2, 2), type = 'n', xlab = 'x2 + z2', ylab = 'x + z')
rect(-2, -2, 2, sqrt(2), col = alpha('firebrick1', 0.5), border = NA)
rect(-2, -2, 1, 2, col = alpha('dodgerblue', 0.5), border = NA)
abline(h = sqrt(2), lty = 2, col = 'firebrick1', lwd = 2)
abline(v = 1, lty = 2, col = 'dodgerblue', lwd = 2)

points(dat$r1^2 + dat$r2^2, dat$r1 + dat$r2, col = "purple")
lines(r^2 + r^2, r + r, col = "seagreen3", type = 'l', lwd = 3)
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