

Appendix

Comparison between two dependent Spearman correlation coefficients

1. Background

A. Data

- (a) Sample: 12 patients
 (b) Design: 4 measurements per patient
 Pre: Left hand, Right hand
 Post: Left hand, Right hand

B. Null Hypothesis: Pre correlation between hands = Post correlation between hands

C. H_1 : Two-tail

2. Procedure

A. Notation

(a) Let r_{ab} represent the Spearman correlation coefficients between variable a and variable b

And let j correspond to Pre, Left hand
 k correspond to Pre, Right hand
 h correspond to Post, Left hand
 m correspond to Post, Right hand

(b) Then r_{jk} is the correlation between Pre-Left and Pre-Right hands
 r_{hm} between Post-Left and Post-Right hands
 r_{jh} between Pre-Left and Post-Left hands
 r_{jm} between Pre-Left and Post-Right hands
 r_{kh} between Pre-Right and Post-Left hands
 r_{km} between Pre-Right and Post-Right hands

B. Computation

(a) Compute all 6 r_{ab} coefficients

(b) Define $c1 \equiv r_{jh}^2 + r_{jm}^2 + r_{kh}^2 + r_{km}^2$
 $c2 \equiv r_{jh}r_{km} + r_{jm}r_{kh}$
 $c3 \equiv r_{jk}r_{jh}r_{jm} + r_{jk}r_{kh}r_{km} + r_{jh}r_{kh}r_{hm} + r_{jm}r_{km}r_{hm}$
 $c4 \equiv (1 - r_{jk}^2)(1 - r_{hm}^2)$

(c) Then $c = (0.5r_{jk}r_{hm}c1 + c2 - c3) / c4$

C. Test

(a) standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{2(1.06)(1-c)}{n-3}}$

where n = sample size

Note: expression from Dunn (1969), p368, eq.9
 factor 1.06 from Zar (2010), §19.9, p400

(b) Fisher's transformation $z_{jk} = \tanh^{-1}(r_{jk})$
 $z_{hm} = \tanh^{-1}(r_{hm})$

Note: applicable only for $r_{ab} \leq 0.9$ and $n \geq 10$

(c) Finally $z = \frac{z_{jk} - z_{hm}}{\sigma}$ which is $N(0,1)$ under H_0

D. Results

(a) p -value

If $p1$ is the upper tail

And $p2$ is the lower tail

Then $p = 2\min(p1, p2)$

(b) Features

Analyse each of the 4 features separately