

# HOW TO ASSESS DOSE-RESPONSE STUDY OUTCOME: A STATISTICAL APPROACH

Lorentz JÄNTSCHI<sup>1</sup> and Sorana D. BOLBOACĂ<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, 15 Constantin Daicoviciu, 400020 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, <http://lori.academicdirect.org>  
<sup>2</sup> „Iuliu Hațieganu“ University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca, 13 Emil Isac, 400023 Cluj-Napoca, Romania, <http://sorana.academicdirect.ro>

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM & RESEARCH AIM

Confidence interval are defined as an estimated range of values that is likely to include an unknown population parameter, this range being calculated from a given set of sample data. The confidence intervals are used in experimental research as criterion of assessment of the trustworthiness or robustness of the finding.<sup>[1]</sup> It is well known that for low proportions, the lower confidence boundaries are frequently less than zero while for the proportions closer to the upper boundaries exceed one.<sup>[2,3]</sup> The main problem of the existent methods is represented by the inadequate coverage and inappropriate intervals.<sup>[3]</sup> The aim of the research was to develop an algorithm for calculation of exact confidence intervals based on the probability matrix.

## METHOD

The binomial distribution has its origins and applications in the natural phenomena studies.<sup>[4]</sup> Carlton and Stansfield<sup>[5]</sup> defined very well the frame and limits of binomial distribution model relative to its application to the natural phenomena. A series of methods were proposed and are used for calculation of confidence interval limits.<sup>[6,7]</sup> Twelve methods were proposed and are used for assessment of confidence intervals.<sup>[8]</sup> The formula for probability calculation:  $P_B(n, X, Y) = \frac{n!}{Y!(n-Y)!} \frac{X^Y (n-X)^{(n-Y)}}{n^n}$  was used in order to obtain the probability matrix. Starting from this matrix an algorithm for confidence intervals calculation has been developed and was applied. Five confidence intervals methods were assessed and compared with proposed one (NewAlg). Twelve evaluation methods are proposed (starting from five proposed in<sup>[7]</sup>, extended to 12 in<sup>[8]</sup>, one of them being corrected from<sup>[8]</sup> and another two being modified) for confidence intervals assessment.

Table 1. Assessment methods for confidence interval calculation methods (A take values of 0 and 1)

AvgOE0	StDOEA	SiDOEA	AvADA0	AvADSA	S8DOEA
$100\alpha - \sum_{X=A}^{n-A} \frac{\epsilon_{X,n}^M}{n+1-2A}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{X=A}^{n-A} (\epsilon_{X,n}^M - \text{AvgOE0})^2}{n-2A}}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{X=A}^{n-A} (\epsilon_{X,n}^M - 100\alpha)^2}{n+1-2A}}$	$\sum_{X=A}^{n-A} \frac{\epsilon_{X,n}^M - \text{AvgOE0}}{n-2A}$	$\sum_{X=A}^{n-A} \frac{ \epsilon_{X,n}^M - 100\alpha }{n+1-2A}$	$\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{X=A}^{n-A} (\epsilon_{X,n}^M - 100\alpha)^2}{n+1-2A}}$

## RESULTS

The proposed probability matrix, exemplified for a sample size of 30 is presented in Table 2. The upper and the lower limits as well as the cumulated experimental errors for six methods (one being new proposed - NewAlg), five being selected from the literature for comparison: Wilson\_N (normal Wilson's formula), Logit\_C (continuity corrected Logit formula), BetaCJ0 (Jeffrey's formula), Blyth-Still-Cassella (B-S-C), and OptiBin (an optimized one, see<sup>[8]</sup>).

Table 2. Proposed method: probability matrix (n = 30)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Err					
0	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
1	36.17	37.41	18.71	6.02	1.40	0.25	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.69		
2	12.62	27.05	28.01	18.67	9.00	3.34	1.00	0.24	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	4.24	14.13	22.77	23.61	17.71	10.23	4.74	1.80	0.58	0.16	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	1.37	6.31	14.07	20.20	20.98	16.78	10.76	5.67	2.51	0.94	0.30	0.09	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
5	0.42	2.53	7.33	15.68	18.47	19.21	16.01	10.98	6.31	3.09	1.30	0.47	0.15	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
6	0.12	0.93	3.37	7.85	13.25	17.23	17.95	15.38	11.06	6.76	3.55	1.61	0.64	0.22	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
7	0.03	0.32	1.39	3.95	8.12	12.85	16.29	17.00	14.88	11.07	7.07	3.91	1.89	0.79	0.29	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
8	0.01	0.10	0.52	1.78	4.36	8.25	12.49	15.58	14.28	10.47	7.05	3.71	2.12	0.94	0.36	0.12	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
9	0.00	0.03	0.18	0.72	2.08	4.64	8.29	12.19	15.01	15.73	14.16	11.03	7.49	4.44	2.31	1.06	0.42	0.15	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
10	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.26	0.89	2.32	4.84	8.29	11.92	14.57	15.30	13.91	11.01	7.62	4.63	2.47	1.16	0.48	0.17	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.34	1.04	2.50	4.97	8.27	11.70	14.23	14.98	13.73	11.00	7.74	4.78	2.59	1.24	0.52	0.19	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.12	0.41	1.15	2.63	5.05	8.23	11.52	13.96	14.74	13.60	11.70	7.83	4.89	2.69	1.29	0.54	0.20	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.17	0.44	1.12	2.74	5.09	8.18	11.37	13.76	15.47	13.53	11.04	7.91	4.98	2.75	1.33	0.56	0.20	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.17	0.52	1.30	2.78	5.10	8.12	11.25	13.53	15.11	14.48	11.55	7.76	4.95	2.79	1.34	0.56	0.20	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.19	0.55	1.33	2.80	5.09	8.06	11.15	13.54	15.15	14.45	11.55	7.76	4.96	2.80	1.35	0.55	0.21	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.06	0.16	0.40	1.20	2.05	3.79	6.56	11.06	13.53</td																				

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Lorentz JÄNTSCHI, Sorana D. BOLBOACĂ

*Technical University and “Iuliu Hațieganu” Medicine and Pharmacy University, Cluj-Napoca,  
400641 and 400349, Romania*

*email: [lori@academicdirect.org](mailto:lori@academicdirect.org), [sbolboaca@umfcluj.ro](mailto:sbolboaca@umfcluj.ro)*

Confidence interval defines as an estimated range of values that is likely to include an unknown population parameter, the estimated range being calculated from a given set of sample data. Are used in experimental research as a criterion of assessment of the trustworthiness or robustness of the finding.<sup>[1]</sup> It is well known that for low proportions, the lower confidence boundaries is frequently less than zero while for the proportions closer to the upper boundaries exceed one.<sup>[2,3]</sup> The main problem of the existent methods is represented by the inadequate coverage and inappropriate intervals.<sup>[3]</sup>

The binomial distribution has its origins and applications in the natural phenomena studies: heterometric bands of tetrameric enzyme, the stoichiometry of the donor and acceptor chromophores implied in enzymatic ligand/receptor interactions, translocation and exfoliation of type I restriction endonucleases, biotinidase activity on neonatal thyroid hormone stimulator, the parasite induced mortality at fish, the occupancy/activity for proteins at multiple nonspecific sites containing replication.<sup>[4]</sup> Carlton and Stansfield<sup>[5]</sup> defined very well the frame and limits of binomial distribution model applied to the natural phenomena.

A series of confidence intervals assessment methods were proposed.<sup>[6]</sup> The formula for probability calculation:

$$P_B(n, X, Y) = \frac{n!}{Y!(n-Y)!} \frac{X^Y (n-X)^{(n-Y)}}{n^n}$$

has been used in order to obtain the probability matrix. An algorithm for confidence intervals calculation has been developed and applied.

This project focuses on the application and usefulness of the proposed confidence intervals calculation algorithm and on its evaluation for a sample size of 30. The evaluation of the algorithm has been done by comparison with Logit, Jeffreys and Blyth-Still-Casella methods and the results are presented here.

### References:

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# CSCB

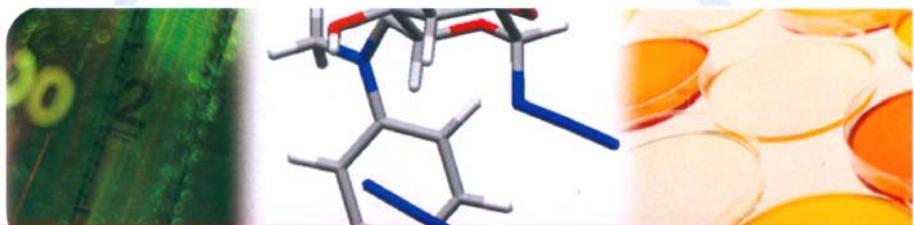
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Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology,  
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland  
Tel: +353-1-716 2302 Fax: +353-1-716 2501 Email: [cscb@ucd.ie](mailto:cscb@ucd.ie)  
Web: [www.ucd.ie/cscb](http://www.ucd.ie/cscb)

