Package: tout (via r-universe)

October 26, 2026

Title Optimal Sample Size and Progression Criteria for Three-Outcome Trials

Version 1.0.3.9000

Description Find the optimal decision rules (AKA progression criteria) and sample size for clinical trials with three (stop/pause/go) outcomes. Both binary and continuous endpoints can be accommodated, as can cases where an adjustment is planned following a pause outcome. For more details see Wilson et al. (2024) <doi:10.1186/s12874-024-02351-x>.

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Repository https://lictr.r-universe.dev

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plot.tout *Plot sampling distributions of three-outcome designs*

Description

Takes an object of class `tout` and plots sampling distributions under the null and alternative hypotheses, highlighting which portions correspond to stop, pause, and go outcomes.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'tout'
plot(x, ...)
```

Arguments

`x`	object of class `tout` as produced by `tout_design()`.
`...`	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

no return value, called for side effects.

print.tout *Print a tout object*

Description

The default print method for a `tout` object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'tout'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

`x`	object of class `tout` as produced by `tout_design()`.
`...`	further arguments passed to or from other methods.

Value

no return value, called for side effects.

tout_design *Find optimal sample size and progression criteria*

Description

Given a null and alternative hypothesis, this function finds the lowest sample size such that a design with optimal progression criteria (as determined by the function opt_pc) satisfies upper constraints on three operating characteristics.

Usage

```
tout_design(
  rho_0,
  rho_1,
  alpha_nom,
  beta_nom,
  gamma_nom = 1,
  eta_0 = 0.5,
  eta_1 = eta_0,
  tau = c(0, 0),
  max_n = NULL,
  n = NULL,
  x = NULL,
  sigma = NULL
)
```

Arguments

rho_0	null hypothesis.
rho_1	alternative hypothesis.
alpha_nom	nominal upper constraint on alpha.
beta_nom	nominal upper constraint on beta.
gamma_nom	nominal upper constraint on gamma. Defaults to 1.
eta_0	probability of an incorrect decision under the null hypothesis after an intermediate result. Defaults to 0.5.
eta_1	probability of an incorrect decision under the alternative hypothesis after an intermediate result. Defaults to eta_0.
tau	two element vector denoting lower and upper limits of the effect of adjustment.
max_n	optional upper limit to use in search over sample sizes.
n	optional sample size (optimised if left unspecified).
x	optional vector of decision thresholds (optimised if left unspecified).
sigma	standard deviation of outcome. If left unspecified, a binary outcome is assumed.

Value

An object of class `tout`, which is a list containing the following components:

`valid`	boolean indicating if the nominal constraints are met.
`n`	sample size.
`thesholds`	numeric vector of the two decision thresholds.
`alpha`	attained value of operating characteristic alpha.
`beta`	attained value of operating characteristic beta.
`gamma`	attained value of operating characteristic gamma.

Examples

```
rho_0 <- 0.5
rho_1 <- 0.7
alpha_nom <- 0.05
beta_nom <- 0.2

tout_design(rho_0, rho_1, alpha_nom, beta_nom)

# Allowing for adjustment effects:

tout_design(rho_0, rho_1, alpha_nom, beta_nom, tau = c(0.08, 0.12))

# Allowing for different error probabilities following a pause decision

tout_design(rho_0, rho_1, alpha_nom, beta_nom, eta_0 = 0.3)

# Designs for continuous outcomes:

tout_design(rho_0 = 0, rho_1 = 0.4, alpha_nom, beta_nom, sigma = 1)
```

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