
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



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**Statistical interpretation of data — Comparison of two means
in the case of paired observations**

Interprétation statistique des données — Comparaison de deux moyennes dans le cas d'observations appariées

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FOREWORD

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Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3301 was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 69, *Applications of statistical methods*, and circulated to the Member Bodies in March 1974.

It has been approved by the Member Bodies of the following countries :

Austria	India	South Africa, Rep. of
Belgium	Israel	Spain
Brazil	Italy	Switzerland
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Turkey
France	Poland	United Kingdom
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Hungary	Romania	Yugoslavia

The Member Bodies of the following countries expressed disapproval of the document on technical grounds :

Sweden
U.S.A.

Statistical interpretation of data – Comparison of two means in the case of paired observations

0 INTRODUCTION

The method specified in this International Standard, known as the method of paired observations, is a special case of the method described in table A' of ISO 2854, *Statistical interpretation of data – Techniques of estimation and tests relating to means and variances*.¹⁾

This special case is mentioned in section two of ISO 2854 immediately after the numerical illustration of table A', and a complete example of applications of the method of paired comparisons has been given in annex A of that International Standard. The importance and wide applicability of the method justify a separate International Standard being devoted to it.

1 SCOPE

This International Standard specifies a method for comparing the mean of a population of differences between paired observations with zero or any other preassigned value.

2 DEFINITION

paired observations: Two observations x_i and y_i of a certain property or characteristic are said to be paired if they are made :

- on the same element i from a population of elements but under different conditions (for example, comparison of results of two methods of analysis on the same product);
- on two distinct elements considered similar in all respects except for the systematic difference which is the subject of the test (for example, comparison of the yield from adjacent plots sown with two distinct varieties of seed).

However, it should be noted that in the second case the efficiency of the test depends on the validity of the

hypothesis that there is no other systematic difference between the individuals in the same pair other than the systematic difference under test.

3 FIELD OF APPLICATION

The method may be applied to establish a difference between two treatments. In this case, the observations x_i are carried out after the first treatment and y_i after the second treatment. The two series of results of the observations are not independent because each result x_i of the first series (first treatment) is associated with a result y_i of the second series (second treatment). The term "treatment" should be understood in a wide sense. The two treatments to be compared may, for instance, be two test methods, two measuring instruments or two laboratories, in order to detect a possible systematic error. Two treatments carried out successively on the same experimental material might interact and the value obtained might depend on the order. Good experimental design should enable such biases to be eliminated. Alternatively, only one treatment may be applied and its effect may be compared to the absence of treatment; the purpose of this comparison is then to establish the effect of that treatment.

4 CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATION

The method can be applied validly if the following two conditions are satisfied :

- the series of differences $d_i = x_i - y_i$ can be considered as a series of independent random items;
- the distribution of the differences $d_i = x_i - y_i$ between the paired observations is supposed to be normal or approximately normal.

If the distribution of these differences deviates from the normal, the technique described remains valid, provided the sample size is sufficiently large; the greater the deviation from normality, the larger the sample size required. Even in extreme cases, however, a sample size of 100 will be sufficient for most practical applications.

1) At present at the stage of draft.

5 FORMAL PRESENTATION OF CALCULATIONS

<p>Problem studied</p> <p>Experimental conditions</p>	
<p>Statistical data</p> <p>Sample size :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$n =$</p> <p>Sum of the observed values :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$\Sigma x_i =$ $\Sigma y_i =$</p> <p>Sum of the differences :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$\Sigma d_i =$</p> <p>Sum of the squares of the differences :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$\Sigma d_i^2 =$</p> <p>Given value :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$d_0 =$</p> <p>Degrees of freedom :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$\nu = n - 1 =$</p> <p>Chosen significance level :</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">$\alpha =$</p>	<p>Calculations</p> $\bar{d} = \frac{1}{n}(\Sigma x_i - \Sigma y_i)$ $= \frac{1}{n} \Sigma d_i =$ $s_d^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} [\Sigma d_i^2 - \frac{1}{n} (\Sigma d_i)^2] =$ $\sigma_d^* = \sqrt{s_d^2} =$ $A_1 = [t_{1-\alpha}(\nu)/\sqrt{n}] \sigma_d^* =$ $A_2 = [t_{1-\alpha/2}(\nu)/\sqrt{n}] \sigma_d^* =$
<p>Results</p> <p>Two-sided case :</p> <p>The hypothesis that the population mean of the difference is equal to d_0 (null hypothesis) is rejected if :</p> $ \bar{d} - d_0 > A_2$ <p>One-sided cases :</p> <p>a) The hypothesis that the population mean of the differences is at least equal to d_0 (null hypothesis) is rejected if :</p> $\bar{d} < d_0 - A_1$ <p>b) The hypothesis that the population mean of the differences is at most equal to d_0 (null hypothesis) is rejected if :</p> $\bar{d} > d_0 + A_1$	

NOTE $t_{1-\alpha}(\nu)$ is the fractile of order $1 - \alpha$ of Student's variate t with ν degrees of freedom. The values of $t_{1-\alpha}(\nu)/\sqrt{n}$ are given in table 1.

TABLE 1 – Values of the ratio $t_{1-\alpha}(\nu)/\sqrt{n}$ for $\nu = n - 1$

$\nu = n - 1$	Two-sided case		One-sided case	
	$\frac{t_{0,975}}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\frac{t_{0,995}}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\frac{t_{0,95}}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\frac{t_{0,99}}{\sqrt{n}}$
1	8,985	45,013	4,465	22,501
2	2,434	5,730	1,686	4,021
3	1,591	2,920	1,177	2,270
4	1,242	2,059	0,953	1,676
5	1,049	1,646	0,823	1,374
6	0,925	1,401	0,734	1,188
7	0,836	1,237	0,670	1,060
8	0,769	1,118	0,620	0,966
9	0,715	1,028	0,580	0,892
10	0,672	0,956	0,546	0,833
11	0,635	0,897	0,518	0,785
12	0,604	0,847	0,494	0,744
13	0,577	0,805	0,473	0,708
14	0,554	0,769	0,455	0,678
15	0,533	0,737	0,438	0,651
16	0,514	0,708	0,423	0,626
17	0,497	0,683	0,410	0,605
18	0,482	0,660	0,398	0,586
19	0,468	0,640	0,387	0,568
20	0,455	0,621	0,376	0,552
21	0,443	0,604	0,367	0,537
22	0,432	0,588	0,358	0,523
23	0,422	0,573	0,350	0,510
24	0,413	0,559	0,342	0,498
25	0,404	0,547	0,335	0,487
26	0,396	0,535	0,328	0,477
27	0,388	0,524	0,322	0,467
28	0,380	0,513	0,316	0,458
29	0,373	0,503	0,310	0,449
30	0,367	0,494	0,305	0,441
40	0,316	0,422	0,263	0,378
50	0,281	0,375	0,235	0,337
60	0,256	0,341	0,214	0,306
70	0,237	0,314	0,198	0,283
80	0,221	0,293	0,185	0,264
90	0,208	0,276	0,174	0,248
100	0,197	0,261	0,165	0,235
200	0,139	0,183	0,117	0,165
500	0,088	0,116	0,074	0,104
∞	0	0	0	0

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EXAMPLE : The data tabled below were collected during an investigation designed to determine whether the average rate of shaft-wear caused by various bearing metals in an internal combustion engine differed between metals.

TABLE 2 – Shaft-wear after a given working time in 0.000 01 in

Shaft <i>i</i>	Wear with		Difference $d_j = x_j - y_j$
	copper-lead x_j	white metal y_j	
1	3.5	1.5	2.0
2	2.0	1.3	0.7
3	4.7	4.5	0.2
4	2.8	2.5	0.3
5	6.5	4.5	2.0
6	2.2	1.7	0.5
7	2.5	1.8	0.7
8	5.8	3.3	2.5
9	4.2	2.3	1.9
Total	34.2	23.4	10.8

Technical characteristics	
<p>Statistical data</p> <p>Sample size :</p> $n = 9$ <p>Sum of the observed values :</p> $\sum x_j = 34.2 \quad \sum y_j = 23.4$ <p>Sum of the differences :</p> $\sum d_j = 10.8$ <p>Sum of the squares of the differences :</p> $\sum d_j^2 = 19.22$ <p>Given value :</p> $d_0 = 0$ <p>Degrees of freedom :</p> $\nu = 8$ <p>Chosen significance level :</p> $\alpha = 0.01$	<p>Calculations</p> $\bar{d} = \frac{1}{9}(34.2 - 23.4) = 1.2$ $s_d^2 = \frac{1}{8} 19.22 - \frac{10.8^2}{9} = 0.782 5$ $\sigma_d^* = \sqrt{0.782 5} = 0.884 6$ $t_{0.995/\sqrt{9}} = 1.118$ $A_2 = 1.118 \times 0.884 6 = 0.99$
<p>Result</p> <p>Comparison of the population mean with the given value 0 :</p> <p>Two-sided case :</p> $ \bar{d} - d_0 = 1.2 > 0.99$ <p>The hypothesis of the equality of the rate of shaft-wear by the two metals is rejected at the 1 % level.</p>	