

Chapter 549

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Introduction

This module calculates the power and sample size for count data from a one-way design for testing for differences among means of those groups. This is analogous to the classical one-way ANOVA design that is used to analyze means of normal outcomes. In the case of only two groups, this procedure produces power and sample size estimates that match those from the two independent-group Poisson means procedure.

The methods used in this chapter come from Mai and Zhang (2017). They proposed using a likelihood ratio test that has similar power characteristics to Poisson regression.

Technical Details

Test Statistic

Technical details are given in Mai and Zhang (2017).

Suppose we have N_g ($g = 1, \dots, G$) subjects in each of G groups for a total of N subjects. Let Y_{gj} be the count response (0, 1, 2, ...) of subject j in group g . The response is modeled by the model $Y_{gj} \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu_g)$.

The log-likelihood ratio test statistic

$$\hat{D} = -2 \sum_{g=1}^G N_g \{ \bar{y}_g [\ln(\bar{y}) - \ln(\bar{y}_g) + (\bar{y}_g - \bar{y})] \}$$

where \bar{y} is the overall mean of Y and \bar{y}_g is the mean of Y in group g .

Under the null hypothesis of equal means, this test statistic follows the chi-squared distribution with $G - 1$ degrees of freedom.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Effect Size

Cramer's V is used as a standardized effect size measure. It gives the association between the count outcome variable and the group variable as a proportion of the maximum possible variation.

The definition of the effect size is

$$V^2 = -2 \sum_{g=1}^G \frac{N_g}{N(G-1)} \{ \mu_g [\ln(\mu_0) - \ln(\mu_g)] + (\mu_g - \mu_0) \}$$

where μ_g is the mean for group g and μ_0 is the overall mean of all groups.

The sample effect size is estimated by

$$\hat{V} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{D}}{N(G-1)}}$$

Power

The power of this test is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{power} &= Pr\{D \geq C | H_1\} \\ &= Pr\{\chi^2(df, \delta) \geq C\} \\ &= 1 - \Psi_{df, \delta}(C) \\ &= 1 - \Psi_{G-1, N(G-1)V^2}[\chi_{1-\alpha}^2(G-1)] \end{aligned}$$

where $\Psi_{df, \delta}$ is a cumulative distribution function of a noncentral chi-squared random variable with df degrees of freedom and noncentrality δ and C is the critical value from a central chi-squared distribution with degrees of freedom $G-1$ and significance level $1-\alpha$.

Sample Size

The above power formula can be used in a binary search to obtain an appropriate value for the sample size.

Procedure Options

This section describes the options that are specific to this procedure. These are located on the Design tab. For more information about the options of other tabs, go to the Procedure Window chapter.

Design Tab

The Design tab contains most of the parameters and options that you will be concerned with.

Solve For

Solve For

This option specifies the parameter to be solved for. When you choose to solve for *Sample Size*, the program searches for the lowest sample size that meets the alpha and power criterion you have specified. The *Solve For* parameter is displayed on the vertical axis of the plot.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Power and Alpha

Power

This option specifies one or more values for power. Power is the probability of rejecting a false null hypothesis and is equal to one minus Beta. Beta is the probability of a type-II error, which occurs when a false null hypothesis is not rejected. In this procedure, a type-II error occurs when you fail to reject the null hypothesis of equal means when in fact the means are different.

Values must be between zero and one. Historically, the value of 0.80 (beta = 0.20) was used for power. Now, 0.90 (beta = 0.10) is also commonly used.

A single value may be entered here or a range of values such as *0.8 to 0.95 by 0.05* may be entered.

Alpha

This option specifies one or more values for the probability of a type-I error. A type-I error occurs when a true null hypothesis is rejected. In this procedure, a type-I error occurs when you reject the null hypothesis of equal means when in fact the means are equal.

Values must be between zero and one. Historically, the value of 0.05 has been used for alpha. This means that about one test in twenty will falsely reject the null hypothesis. You should pick a value for alpha that represents the risk of a type-I error you are willing to take in your experimental situation.

You may enter a range of values such as *0.01 0.05 0.10* or *0.01 to 0.10 by 0.01*.

Sample Size and Group Allocation

G (Number of Groups)

This is the number of groups (arms) whose means are being compared. The number of items used in the Group Allocation boxes is controlled by this number.

Range

$G \geq 2$.

Group Allocation Input Type (when Solve For = Power)

Specify how you want to enter the information about how the subjects are allocated to each of the G groups.

Possible options are:

- **Equal ($N_1 = N_2 = \dots = N_G$)**

The sample size of every group is N_i . All group sample sizes are equal. Enter one or more values for N_i .

- **Enter group multipliers**

Enter a list of group multipliers (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G) and one or more values of N_i . The individual group sample sizes are found by multiplying the multipliers by N_i . For example, $N_1 = r_1 \times N_i$.

- **Enter N_1, N_2, \dots, N_G**

Enter a list of group sample sizes, one for each group.

- **Enter columns of N_i 's**

Select one or more columns of the spreadsheet that each contain a set of group sample sizes going down the column. Each column is analyzed separately.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

N_i (Sample Size Per Group)

Enter N_i , the number of subjects in each group. The total number of subjects, N , is equal to N_i x (number of groups).

You can specify a single value or a list.

Single Value

Enter a value for the sample size of all groups. If you enter '10' here and there are five groups, then each group will be assigned 10 subjects and the total sample size will be 50.

List of Values

A separate power analysis is calculated for each value of n in the list. All analyses assume that the common, group sample size is N_i .

Range of N_i

$N_i > 1$

Group Multipliers (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G)

Enter a set of G multipliers, one for each group.

The individual group sample sizes is computed as $N_i = \text{ceiling}[r_i \times N]$, where $\text{ceiling}[y]$ is the first integer greater than or equal to y . For example, the multipliers $\{1, 1, 2, 2.95\}$ and *base* N_i of 10 would result in the sample sizes $\{10, 10, 20, 30\}$.

Incomplete List

If the number of items in the list is less than G , the missing multipliers are set equal to the last entry in the list.

Range

The items in the list must be positive. The resulting sample sizes must be at least 1.

N_i (Base Sample Size Per Group)

Enter N_i , the base number of subjects in each group. The number of subjects in the group is found by multiplying this number by the corresponding group multiplier, $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G\}$, and rounding up to the next integer.

You can specify a single value or a list.

Single Value

Enter a value for the base group sample size.

List of Values

A separate power analysis is calculated for each value of N_i in the list.

Range

$\text{Ceiling}[N \times r_i] \geq 1$.

N_1, N_2, \dots, N_G (List)

Enter a list of G sample sizes, one for each group.

Incomplete List

If the number of items in the list is less than G , the missing sample sizes are set equal to the last entry in the list.

Range

The items in the list must be positive. At least one item in the list must be greater than 1.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Columns of N_i 's

Enter one or more spreadsheet columns containing vertical lists of group sample sizes.

Press the Spreadsheet icon (directly to the right) to select the columns and then enter the values.

Press the Input Spreadsheet icon (to the right and slightly up) to view/edit the spreadsheet. Also note that you can obtain the spreadsheet by selecting "Tools", then "Input Spreadsheet", from the menus.

On the spreadsheet, the group sample sizes are entered going down.

Examples (assuming $G = 3$)

C1	C2	C3
111	1	28
115	20	68
100	30	46

Definition of a Single Column

Each column gives one list. Each column results in a new scenario. The columns are not connected, but all should have exactly G rows.

Each entry in the list is the sample size of that group.

Incomplete List

If the number of items in the list is less than G , the missing entries are set equal to the last entry in the list.

Valid Entries

All values should be positive integers. At least one value must be greater than one.

Note

The column names (C1, C2, ...) can be changed by clicking on them in the spreadsheet.

Group Allocation Input Type (when Solve For = Sample Size)

Specify how you want to enter the information about how the subjects are allocated to each of the G groups.

Options

- **Equal ($N_1 = N_2 = \dots = N_G$)**
All group sample sizes are equal to N_i . The value of N_i will be found by conducting a search.
- **Enter group allocation pattern**
Enter an allocation pattern (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G). The pattern consists of a set of G numbers. These numbers will be rescaled into proportions by dividing each item by the sum of all items. The individual group sample sizes are found by multiplying these proportions by N (the total sample size) and rounding up.
- **Enter columns of allocation patterns**
Select one or more columns of the spreadsheet that each contain a group allocation pattern going down the column. Each column is analyzed separately.

Group Allocation Pattern (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G)

Enter an allocation pattern (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_G). The pattern consists of a set of G numbers. These numbers will be rescaled into proportions of total sample size by dividing each item by the sum of all items. The individual group sample sizes are found by multiplying these proportions by N (the total sample size) and rounding up.

For example, the pattern $\{1, 3, 4\}$ will be rescaled to $\{0.125, 0.375, 0.5\}$. The group sample sizes will be constrained to these proportions (within rounding) during the search for the sample configuration that just meets the power requirement.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Incomplete List

If the number of items in the list is less than G , the missing numbers are set equal to the last entry in the list.

Range

The items in the list must be positive. The resulting sample sizes must be at least 1.

Columns of Group Allocation Patterns

Enter one or more spreadsheet columns containing vertical lists of group allocation patterns.

Press the Spreadsheet icon (directly to the right) to select the columns and then enter the values.

Press the Input Spreadsheet icon (to the right and slightly up) to view/edit the spreadsheet. Also note that you can obtain the spreadsheet by selecting "Tools", then "Input Spreadsheet", from the menus.

On the spreadsheet, the group allocation patterns are entered going down.

Examples (assuming $G = 3$)

C1	C2	C3
1	1	3
1	2	3
3	2	1

Definition of a Single Column

Each column gives one allocation pattern. Each column results in a new scenario. The columns are not connected, but all should have exactly G rows.

Incomplete List

If the number of items in a list is less than G , the missing numbers are set equal to the last entry in the list before they are rescaled.

Valid Entries

All values should be positive numbers. You can enter decimal values.

Note

The column names (C1, C2, ...) can be changed by clicking on them in the spreadsheet

Effect Size - $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$ (Group Means)

μ_i 's Input Type

Specify how you want to enter $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$, the means for each of the G groups.

Options

- $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$**
 Specify the values of the means for each group. The differences among these values represent the effect size that you want to detect.
- Columns Containing Sets of μ_i 's**
 Select one or more columns of the spreadsheet that each contain a set of μ_i 's going down the column. Each column is analyzed separately.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$

Enter the values of the means, one for each of the G groups. These entries provide values assumed by the alternative hypothesis. The null hypothesis assumes that all of the values are equal. The effect size detected by the study is a function of the differences among these values.

This value is the anticipated mean of all subjects in a particular group.

Range

Each μ_i can be any positive number. Also, at least one of the values must be different from the rest.

Example

0.2 0.1 0.1 0.1

Incomplete List

If the number of items in a list is less than G , the missing numbers are set equal to the last entry.

Columns Containing Sets of μ_i 's

Enter one or more spreadsheet columns containing vertical lists of $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$.

Press the Spreadsheet icon (directly to the right) to select the columns and then enter the values.

Press the Input Spreadsheet icon (to the right and slightly up) to view/edit the spreadsheet. Also note that you can obtain the spreadsheet by selecting "Tools", then "Input Spreadsheet", from the menus.

On the spreadsheet, the μ_i 's are entered going down.

Examples (assuming $G = 3$)

C1	C2	C3
0.5	0.5	0.5
0.1	0.2	0.3
0.1	0.3	0.4

Definition of a Single Column

Each column gives one set of probabilities. Each column results in a new scenario. The columns are not connected, but all should have exactly G rows.

Incomplete List

If the number of items in a column is less than G , the missing numbers are set equal to the last entry in the column.

Valid Entries

Positive numbers.

Note

The column names (C1, C2, ...) can be changed by clicking on them in the spreadsheet.

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Example 1 – Determining Power

Researchers are planning a study comparing three medications: a standard drug and two experimental drugs. The experimental drugs are expected to have about the same impact on response rate. The outcome is a count—a non-negative integer value.

Each subject will receive an application of only one drug. The response is a count variable. With the standard drug, this response has been about 3.4. The researchers want a sample size large enough to detect a difference of 0.6 in the response rate. They will use the means of 3.4, 2.8, and 2.8 to represent this difference.

The test will be conducted at the 0.05 significance level. The subjects will be randomly split equally among the three groups.

What powers are achieved by group sample sizes between 100 and 200?

Setup

This section presents the values of each of the parameters needed to run this example. First, from the PASS Home window, load the procedure window. You may then make the appropriate entries as listed below, or open **Example 1** by going to the **File** menu and choosing **Open Example Template**.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Value</u>
Design Tab	
Solve For	Power
Alpha.....	0.05
G (Number of Groups).....	3
Group Allocation Input Type	Equal (N1 = N2 = ... = NG)
Ni (Subjects Per Group)	100 120 140 160 180 200
μ i's Input Type	μ1, μ2, ..., μG
μ 1, μ 2, ..., μ G.....	3.4 2.8 2.8

Annotated Output

Click the Calculate button to perform the calculations and generate the following output.

Numeric Results					
Number of Groups: 3					
Power	Total Subjects Count	Subjects Per Group	Group Means Set	Effect Size Cramer's V	Alpha
	N	Ni	μi		
0.7082	300	100	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.7898	360	120	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.8517	420	140	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.8973	480	160	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.9300	540	180	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.9529	600	200	μ i(1)	0.1143	0.050
Set(Set Number): Values					
Pi(1): 3.4, 2.8, 2.8					
References					
Y. Mai and Z.Zhang. 2017. Statistical power analysis for comparing means with binary or count data based on analogous ANOVA. In L. A. van der Ark, M. Wiberg, S. A. Culpepper, J. A. Douglas, & W.-C. Wang (Eds.), Quantitative Psychology - The 81st Annual Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Asheville, North Carolina, 2016: Springer.					
Z. Zhang and K.H. Yuan. 2018. Practical Statistical Power Analysis: Using WebPower and R. ISDSA Press. Granger, IN.					

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design

Report Definitions

Power is the probability of rejecting a false null hypothesis.

Total Subject Count N is the total number of subjects in the study.

Subjects Per Group N_i is the number of subjects per group.

Group Means Set μ_i gives the name and number of the set containing the mean responses for each group.

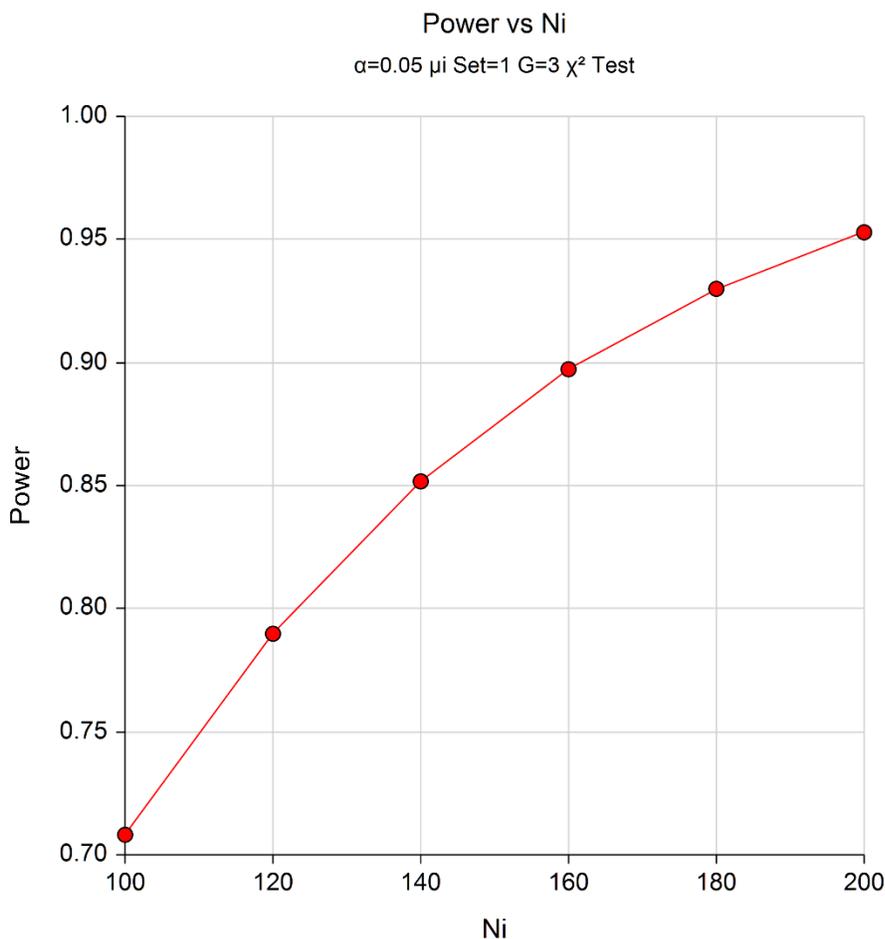
Effect Size Cramer's V is a measure of the effect size. It is the association between the outcome variable and the grouping variable. It is the proportion of the maximum variation in the outcome variable accounted for by the grouping variable.

Alpha is the significance level of the test: the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis of equal means when it is true.

Summary Statements

A sample of 300 subjects, divided among 3 groups, achieves a power of 0.7082. This power assumes a chi-squared test from an analysis with 2 degrees of freedom is used at a significance level of 0.050. The group subject counts are 100, 100, 100. The group means under the alternative hypothesis are 3.40, 2.80, 2.80. The effect size is 0.1143.

This report gives the sample size for each value of the other parameters.



This shows the relationship among the design parameters.

Example 2 – Finding the Sample Size

Continuing with Example 1, the researchers want to determine the sample size corresponding to powers of 0.8 and 0.9.

Setup

This section presents the values of each of the parameters needed to run this example. First, from the PASS Home window, load the procedure window. You may then make the appropriate entries as listed below, or open **Example 2** by going to the **File** menu and choosing **Open Example Template**.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Value</u>
Design Tab	
Solve For	Sample Size
Power.....	0.8 0.9
Alpha.....	0.05
G (Number of Groups).....	3
Group Allocation Input Type	Equal (N1 = N2 = ... = NG)
μ_i 's Input Type	$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$
$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$	3.4 2.8 2.8

Output

Click the Calculate button to perform the calculations and generate the following output.

Numeric Results

Number of Groups: 3

	Total Subjects Count	Group Subject Alloc Set	Group Means Set	Effect Size Cramer's V	Alpha
Power	N	ri	μ_i		
0.8003	369	ri(1)	$\mu_i(1)$	0.1143	0.050
0.9011	486	ri(1)	$\mu_i(1)$	0.1143	0.050

Set(Set Number): Values

ri(1): 0.333, 0.333, 0.333

$\mu_i(1)$: 3.40, 2.80, 2.80

The sample sizes are 369 for a power of 0.8 and 486 for a power of 0.9. Note that the search routine only searches designs that have equal group sizes (i.e. that are divisible by 3 since there are 3 groups).

Example 3 – Comparing Various Effect Sizes

Continuing with Examples 1 and 2, the researchers want to compare the sample size of various sets of group means. To do this, they will compare the four sets of means shown in the following table. The first row is the mean for the standard medication. The second and third rows give the anticipated means of the experimental medications.

The values in this table must be loaded into the spreadsheet.

Table of Four Sets of Response Probabilities

C1	C2	C3	C4
3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
2.8	3.0	3.1	2.8
2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1

Setup

This section presents the values of each of the parameters needed to run this example. First, from the PASS Home window, load the procedure window. You may then make the appropriate entries as listed below, or open **Example 3** by going to the **File** menu and choosing **Open Example Template**.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Value</u>
Design Tab	
Solve For	Sample Size
Power	0.9
Alpha	0.05
G (Number of Groups)	3
Group Allocation Input Type	Equal (N1 = N2 = ... = NG)
μi's Input Type	Columns containing sets of μi's
Columns Containing Sets of μi's	C1-C4

The above table must be entered into the spreadsheet and the column names changed to C1 – C4. Press the Input Spreadsheet icon to the right to view the spreadsheet.

Output

Click the Calculate button to perform the calculations and generate the following output.

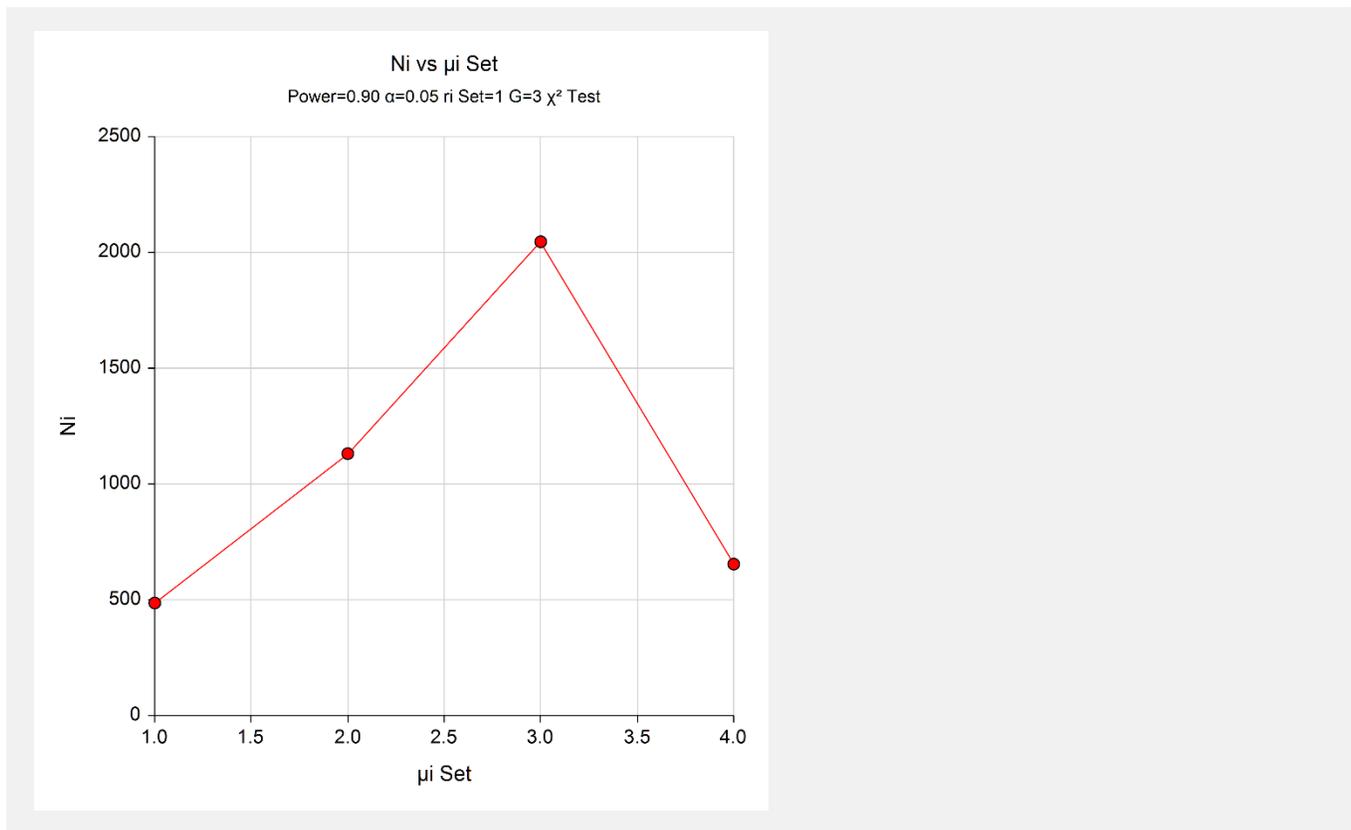
Numeric Results

Number of Groups: 3

	Total Subjects Count	Group Subject Alloc Set ri	Group Means Set μi	Effect Size Cramer's V	Alpha
Power	N				
0.9011	486	ri(1)	C1(1)	0.1143	0.050
0.9002	1131	ri(1)	C2(2)	0.0748	0.050
0.9002	2046	ri(1)	C3(3)	0.0556	0.050
0.9006	654	ri(1)	C4(4)	0.0985	0.050

Set(Set Number): Values
 ri(1): 0.333, 0.333, 0.333
 C1(1): 3.40, 2.80, 2.80
 C2(2): 3.40, 3.00, 3.00
 C3(3): 3.40, 3.10, 3.10
 C4(4): 3.40, 2.80, 3.10

Tests for Multiple Poisson Rates in a One-Way Design



Note that the horizontal axis gives the index of the mean set footnote. Thus, '1.0' is column C1(1), '2.0' is column C2(2), and so on.

Example 4 – Validation of Power Calculation using Zhang and Yuan (2018)

Zhang and Yuan (2018) page 127-128 present an example in which $G = 4$, $\alpha = 0.05$, and $N_i = 25$.

Their example provides the individual group means as $\mu_1 = 3.48$, $\mu_2 = 4.24$, $\mu_3 = 3.12$, and $\mu_4 = 3.00$. These result in a V of 0.148, so we will use these values in the validation.

Zhang and Yuan (2018) do not complete the power calculation, so we will do this using PASS's Probability Calculator. We find that the critical value of $C = 7.814728$ and that the noncentrality parameter is $100(3)(0.148)(0.148) = 6.5712$. This results in a power of 0.5594 using the noncentral chi-squared calculator.

Setup

This section presents the values of each of the parameters needed to run this example. First, from the PASS Home window, load the procedure window. You may then make the appropriate entries as listed below, or open **Example 4** by going to the **File** menu and choosing **Open Example Template**.

<u>Option</u>	<u>Value</u>
Design Tab	
Solve For	Power
Alpha	0.05
G (Number of Groups)	4
Group Allocation Input Type	Equal (N1 = N2 = ... = NG)
Ni (Subjects Per Group)	25
μ_i 's Input Type	$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$
$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_G$	3.48 4.24 3.12 3.00

Output

Click the Calculate button to perform the calculations and generate the following output.

Numeric Results					
Number of Groups: 4					
	Total Subjects Count	Subjects Per Group	Group Means Set	Effect Size Cramer's V	Alpha
Power	N	Ni	μ_i	V	
0.5594	100	25	$\mu_i(1)$	0.1480	0.050
Set(Set Number): Values					
$\mu_i(1)$: 3.48, 4.24, 3.12, 3.00					

The power of 0.5594 matches the calculated power exactly, so the procedure is validated. The value of V of 0.148 matches the value from Zhang and Yuan (2018).