



On the power of some sequential multiple testing procedures

Shiyun Chen¹ · Ery Arias-Castro²

Received: 18 January 2019 / Revised: 21 January 2020 / Published online: 2 April 2020
© The Institute of Statistical Mathematics, Tokyo 2020

Abstract

We study an online multiple testing problem where the hypotheses arrive sequentially in a stream. The test statistics are independent and assumed to have the same distribution under their respective null hypotheses. We investigate two recently proposed procedures LORD and LOND, which are proved to control the FDR in an online manner. In some (static) model, we show that LORD is optimal in some asymptotic sense, in particular as powerful as the (static) Benjamini–Hochberg procedure to first asymptotic order. We also quantify the performance of LOND. Some numerical experiments complement our theory.

Keywords Online multiple testing · False discovery rate (FDR) control · Asymptotic optimality · False non-discovery rate (FNR) analysis

✉ Ery Arias-Castro
eariascastro@ucsd.edu

Shiyun Chen
shc176@ucsd.edu

¹ Amazon, Seattle, WA, USA

² University of California, San Diego, CA, USA