

**Question #28401** give me an example to perform Levene's test. I have a school project that makes an app for the QUEST algorithm. After doing a chi-square or ANOVA test, sometimes I have to do Levene's test. If you don't mind, help me with an example.

**Solution.** Levene's test is used to test if  $k$  samples have equal variances. Equal variances across samples is called homogeneity of variance. Suppose that your big sample  $Y = (Y_{1,\cdot}, \dots, Y_{k,\cdot})$  is divided into  $k$  "small" samples  $Y_{i,\cdot}, 1 \leq i \leq k$ . Levene's test tests whether r.v.s inside small groups possess the same variance. The statistic of the test is

$$W = \frac{(N - k) \sum_{i=1}^k N_i (\overline{Z_{i,\cdot}} - \overline{Z_{\cdot,\cdot}})^2}{(k - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} (Z_{i,j} - \overline{Z_{i,\cdot}})^2}$$

here  $Z_{i,j} = |Y_{i,j} - \overline{Y_{i,\cdot}}|$ ,  $\overline{Y_{i,\cdot}}$  is the mean of the  $i$ -th group. Respectively,  $\overline{Z_{i,\cdot}}$  are the group means of  $Z_{i,j}$ ,  $\overline{Z_{\cdot,\cdot}}$  is the mean of all  $Z_{i,j}$ ,  $N, N_i$  are respectively the size of the big and small samples. After calculating this statistic, you should compare it with the  $F_{\alpha, k-1, N-k}$   $1 - \alpha$  (take  $\alpha = 0.05$  for instance) quantile of the Fisher distribution with  $k - 1$  and  $N - k$  degrees of freedom. If  $W > F_{\alpha, k-1, N-k}$ , then the null hypothesis is rejected, that is, the variance inside the small samples differs. Otherwise, we accept the null hypothesis.