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## Abstract

We propose the pooled kappa estimator for qualitative data. We use a simulation of proposed pooled kappa estimator to calculate pooled and domain kappas for the CAHPS. The proposed pooled kappa estimator efficiently summarizes interrater agreement by domain. It is more widely applicable and makes better use of scarce subjects than simply averaging item-level kappas.



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1. Scholars working in the field of content analysis generally regard the textual passage, not the person or persons from whom the passages were derived, as the unit of analysis. Viewed from that perspective, the sample size could be defined as the number of passages to be coded, not the number of subjects. Because we are trying to make inferences about the subject (the person interviewed), not just the passage, we adhere to a tradition commonly found in disciplines such as psychology and educational research, where the sample consist of “subjects” (persons) and the content collected on the subjects is categorized into “items.”
2. Because of the size of section E, we have split this section into two natural subsections and calculated pooled kappa for each.

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