AN APPROXIMATE METHOD OF ESTIMATING COMPOSITE TEST RELIABILITY WITH UNEQUAL LENGTH PART TESTS

Mohottige U. Sedere
(University of Sri Lanka)

Reliability coefficients which are based on tau-equivalence underestimate test reliability when part tests are unequal in length. Horst's, Kristof's, and Feldt's coefficients are the only available reliability coefficients to be used with unequal length part tests. These coefficients are based on different test theory models and can be used only with two or three part tests. This paper presents a reliability coefficient based on 'nominal test lengths' to use with any number of unequal length part tests and will be coefficient alpha under tau - equivalence.