

STANDARD ERROR OF THE BREAKPOINT FOR TYPE 2 IN SEGREG
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Used in the SegReg program at <https://www.waterlog.info/segreg.htm> for segmented regression
On website <https://www.waterlog.info> public domain, latest upload 20-11-2017

The regression line to the left of the breakpoint (BP) is represented as

$$y = a_1(x - \chi_1) + \eta_1$$

and to the right as

$$y = a_2(x - \chi_2) + \eta_2$$

where y is the dependent variable, x the independent variable, a_1 the regression coefficient of the line to the left of BP, a_2 the regression coefficient to the right, χ_1 the average of the x values to the left of BP, χ_2 the average of the x values to the right, η_1 the average of the y values to the left of BP and η_2 the average of the y values to the right.

At the breakpoint, where $x=BP$, the y values are equal, so that here

$$a_1(bp - \chi_1) + \eta_1 = a_2(bp - \chi_2) + \eta_2$$

where bp is the value of x at BP.

Re-arrangement gives

$$bp = (a_1\chi_1 - \eta_1 - a_2\chi_2 + \eta_2) / (a_1 - a_2)$$

The standard error S of BP can be found, using the laws of propagation of errors in additions and multiplications, from

$$S^2_{bp} = S^2_{\{1/(a_1 - a_2)\}} (a_1\chi_1 - \eta_1 - a_2\chi_2 + \eta_2)^2 + \{1/(a_1 - a_2)^2\} S^2_{\{a_1\chi_1 - \eta_1 - a_2\chi_2 + \eta_2\}}$$

where

$$S^2_{\{1/(a_1 - a_2)\}} = S^2_{(a_1 - a_2)} / (a_1 - a_2)^4$$

with

$$S^2_{(a_1 - a_2)} = S^2_{a_1} + S^2_{a_2}$$

and

$$S^2_{\{a_1\chi_1 - \eta_1 - a_2\chi_2 + \eta_2\}} = S^2_{a_1\chi_1} + S^2_{\eta_1} + S^2_{a_2\chi_2} + S^2_{\eta_2}$$

with

$$S_{a_1\chi_1}^2 = a_1^2 S_{\chi_1}^2 + \chi_1^2 S_{a_1}^2$$

$$S_{a_2\chi_2}^2 = a_2^2 S_{\chi_2}^2 + \chi_2^2 S_{a_2}^2$$

For the determination of the standard deviation of a_1 , a_2 , χ_1 , χ_2 , η_1 and η_2 see for example <http://www.waterlog.info/pdf/regtxt.pdf>