

# Prioritizing the Nutrients of Grouper Fish For Feed Formulation using Inversely Proportional to the Variance and Weighted Sum of Z-Scores

Soong Cai Juan, Rosshairy Abd. Rahman, Razamin Ramli

**Abstract:** Grouper fish requires several important nutrients such as crude protein, crude fibre and calcium to maintain its healthiness and growth. However, it is very hard to determine the priority of the nutrients in order to formulate the grouper feed. Therefore, in this paper, the priority of the nutrients is investigated using two methods which are optimal characteristic of inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores. Data was collected from 30 manufactures of grouper fish feed meal and analysis were done by using inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores respectively via SPSS, Statdisk Software and Microsoft Excel. Result shown that weighted sum of z-scores is more appropriate and better method compare with inversely proportional to the variance. The priority of nutrients using weighted sum of z-scores are crude ash, follow by crude protein, phosphorus, crude fat, crude fibre and calcium. This vital information can be considered in such as further study in formulating the nutrients for grouper fish feed.

**Keywords:** Grouper, Feed formulation, Weighted sum of Z-scores, Inversely proportional to the variance, Nutrient requirements.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Nutrients are fundamental needs for all living beings in terms of healthiness [1] (Gumustekinet *et al.*, 2014), to maintain all physical activities (Campbell *et al.*, 2011, Gumustekinet *et al.*, 2014) and to survive (Soong *et al.*, 2016a, Soong *et al.*, 2016b). It is very vital for all living beings to survive with adequate feed simultaneously attain the standard nutrient necessities and day-to-day functions. Thus, to obtain healthy farmed animal, it is important to comprehend the nutrient necessities and nutrient balance. In other words, the nutrient given is equal to the nutrient required to ensure farmed animal can obtain basic nutrients requirement. This objective can be accomplished through consideration on the nutrients priority and eventually motivation to our interest to undertake the grouper fish feed problems as our focus of study. Due to the high market demand of various seafood restaurants, this study chosen these carnivorous groupers (Soong *et al.*, 2015, Soong *et al.*, 2016a, Soong *et al.*, 2016b, Soong *et al.*, 2016c), which are more expensive than other fish (Soong *et al.*, 2015, Soong *et al.*, 2016a, Soong *et al.*, 2016b, Soong *et al.*, 2016c,

Tuburanet *et al.*, 2001, Daud, 2012, Liu *et al.*, 2013, Boonyaratpalin, 1997, Millamena, 2002, Luo *et al.*, 2004, Luo *et al.*, 2005) and high nutrients (Fao, 2014, Chen & Tsai, 1994, Tuburanet *et al.*, 2001, Liu *et al.*, 2013) and satisfactory taste (Soong *et al.*, 2015, Soong *et al.*, 2016b, Tuburanet *et al.*, 2001, Daud, 2012). Nonetheless, it is challenging to find the relevant data because there is no exact data available (NRC, 2011). Many previous studies related to feed formulation has been clarified. One of the approach is Experimental Design (ED) (Agboet *et al.*, 2011, Bhosale *et al.*, 2010, Dumas *et al.*, 2007, Hatlen *et al.*, 2007, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2008, Gunben *et al.*, 2014, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2013, Lohlumet *et al.*, 2012, Luo *et al.*, 2004, Lupatschet *et al.*, 2003). ED is a method used to test and examine the feed formulation from various experimentations such as researches by Agboet *et al.*, 2011, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2008, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2013 and Gunben *et al.*, 2014. All their findings confirmed that nutrients can be obtained with compromising growth (Agboet *et al.*, 2011, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2008) or feed utilization efficiency (Agboet *et al.*, 2011, Shapawiet *et al.*, 2008). Nevertheless, these studies used ED which can be categorized as a trial-and-error type (Afolayan & Afolayan, 2008, Onwurah 2005) are tedious and time-consuming. On top of that, ED method is very costly because various experiments and materials are needed in carrying these trials and wasting time. Thus, our approach had shorten time and save cost. To the best of our knowledge, there is no work reported on the weightage of nutrients priorities in feed formulation, including of using ED, inversely proportional to the variance (Chandra, 2005) and weighted sum of z-scores (de bakker *et al.*, 2008, Han & Eskin, 2011, Cue Hyunkyue *et al.*, 2016, Zaitlen & Eskin, 2013, Evangelou & Ioannidis, 2013). Hence, this research is done using two statistical methods i.e. inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores which able to outline and construct nutrients priority of grouper fish and given its weightage value. Thus, toward achieving this objective, this paper is organized as follows. Methodology is illustrated in the next section, followed by data analysis and discussion. Conclusions remarks and future works are drawn in the last section.

## II. METHODOLOGY

Two methods, which are inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores ( $Z_{SZ}$ ) are described in this section.

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Both methods are performed similarly where both calculate the weightage; however their characteristics and relationship in determining priority of nutrients in grouper fish feed formulation is investigated thoroughly in this study. Standard deviation and variance is a relevant and most-used measurement of dispersion (Mann, 2013). The value of the standard deviation and variance tells how closely the values of a data set are clustered around the mean (Mann, 2013) or how precision of a value (Chandra, 2005). A larger value of the standard deviation and variance for a data set indicates that the values of that data set are spread over a relatively larger range around the mean (Mann, 2013) or in other words mean low precision (Chandra, 2005) and vice versa. Thus, weight of observation is another measure of precision that is directly related to the precision of a measurement and does not behave in opposite manner as the variance. The weight of a single observation is defined as the inversely proportional to the variance of the observation, i.e.,  $w = \frac{k}{\sigma^2}$  where  $k$  is a constant of proportionality. For an observation of unit weight, i.e.,  $w = 1$ ,  $k$  is equal to variance of the observation. (Chandra, 2005).

Weighted sum of z-scores is another famous method applied in either the fixed effects model meta-analysis (de

bakker *et al.*, 2008, Han & Eskin, 2011, Cue Hyunkyuet *et al.*, 2016, Zaitlen & Eskin, 2013, Evangelou & Ioannidis, 2013) or random effect model (Thompson & Sharp, 1999). The weighted sum of z-scores method constructs a new Z-score by calculating a weighted sum of individual z-scores (Cue Hyunkyuet *et al.*, 2016). The score  $Z_i$  from study  $i$  which  $N(0,1)$  under the null hypothesis of no effects. Then, the formula of weighted sum of z-scores is  $Z_{SZ} = \frac{\sum w_{SZ,i} Z_i}{\sqrt{\sum w_{SZ,i}^2}}$ .

The characteristic of a normal distribution also follows  $N(0,1)$  under the null hypothesis of no effects. Weights of multiple studies are combined as formula  $w_{SZ} = \sqrt{\sum N_i}$

Where  $N_i$  is the sample size of the study (Zaitlen & Eskin, 2010; Cue Hyunkyuet *et al.*, 2016, Evangelou & Ioannidis, 2013).

In this study, data was collected from 30 manufacturers of grouper fish feedmeal as illustrated in Table 1. These secondary data were collected based on the data published by the grouper fish feed manufacturers. The value in Table 1 represents the component of each nutrient in grouper fish feed for each manufacturer.

**Table. 1 The Components of Nutrients in Grouper Feed Meal from Manufactures**

	Crude Protein	Crude Fat	Crude Fibre	Crude Ash	Phosphorus	Calcium
1	44	7	3	16	0	0
2	52	8	6	16	1.3	4
3	38	5	3	16	1.5	2.5
4	48	10	3	17	1.8	2
5	52	2	6	10	0	0
6	46	13	2	13	0	0
7	40	5	5	0	0	0
8	38	2	8	0	0.6	0
9	35	7	4	0	1.2	0
10	5	1	0.5	0	0	0
11	11	1.2	5	0	0	0
12	46	14	3	13	0	0
13	12	1.5	3.5	0	0	0
14	52	9.4	2	18	0	0
15	52	20	1	12	0	0
16	43	7	4	16	1.2	0
17	60	8	3	0	0	0
18	47	24	1.8	12	0	0
19	7.8	1.6	0.5	0	0	0
20	4	0.5	1	0	0	0
21	44	10	3	0	1	0
22	47	5.5	0.5	0	0.1	0
23	14.8	1.01	0.5	0	0	0
24	65	5	3.5	0	0.1	0
25	6	0.5	1	0	0	0
26	47	5	3	17	1	0
27	4.7	0.8	0.5	0	0	0
28	9	8	3	0	0	0
29	37	2	8	0	0	0
30	7	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.1	0



The data was analysed using two methods, which are inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores to determine the weightage of nutrients. Inversely

proportional to the variance was calculated by using Microsoft Excel while weighted sum of z-scores using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) 13.0 for Windows Version (SPSS Inc, 2005). Subsequently, due to the reason that both inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores can be applied in constructing the weightage of each component to produce feasible solution successfully in a complex problem, thus it is deemed suitable to be adopted in our study of grouper fish feed formulation. Therefore, our study aimed to obtain the weightage of nutrients as presented in the following section.

### III. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In this present study, quantitative descriptive statistics include the mean and standard deviation of crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre, crude ash, phosphorus and calcium are shown as in Table 2. The highest mean was crude protein, which is 33.8100, followed by crude fat, which is 6.1903, the third highest, is crude ash, which is 5.8800, then followed by crude fibre, which is 2.9667. The last two highest mean was phosphorus and calcium, which is 0.3300 and 0.2822 respectively.

**Table. 2 Results of Quantitative Descriptive Statistics**

	N	Mean	Std Deviation
Crude Protein	30	33.8100	19.55319
Crude Fat	30	6.1903	5.78614
Crude Fiber	30	2.9667	2.12089
Crude Ash	30	5.8800	7.46238
Phosphorus	30	0.3300	0.56272
Calcium	30	0.2833	0.90671
Valid N (likewise)	30		

The result from inversely proportional to the variance method obtained using Microsoft Excel is shown in Table 3. The value in Table 2 represents sum of data, mean and standard deviation. Meanwhile, the value in Table 3 represents variance and inversely proportional to the variance for crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre, crude ash, phosphorus and calcium. Table 4 represents the result for weighted sum of z-scores using SPSS. The weightage of phosphorus is 3.15800937 which is the highest weightage among 6 nutrients while the weightage of crude protein is 0.002615561 which is the lowest weightage using inversely proportional to the variance.

**Table. 3 Inversely Proportional to the Variance Using Microsoft Excel**

	Crude Protein	Crude Fat	Crude Fiber	Crude Ash	Phosphorus	Calcium
Total Sum $\Sigma$	1014.3	185.71	89	176.4	9.9	8.5
Variance $\sigma^2$	382.3271379	33.479424	4.49816092	55.687172	0.31665517	0.822126
$1/\sigma^2$	0.002615561	0.0298691	0.22231308	0.0179575	3.15800937	1.216358

**Table. 4 Result of weighted sum of Z-score**

ZCrude Protein	ZCrude Fat	ZCrude Fiber	ZCrude Ash	ZPhosphorus	ZCalcium
0.52114	0.13993	0.01572	1.35614	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.93028	0.31276	1.43022	1.35614	1.72377	4.09906
0.21429	-0.20572	0.01572	1.35614	2.07918	2.44473
0.72571	0.65841	0.01572	1.49014	2.61231	1.89329
0.93028	-0.7242	1.43022	0.5521	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.62343	1.17689	-0.45578	0.95412	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.31657	-0.20572	0.95872	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.21429	-0.7242	2.37322	-0.78795	0.47981	-0.31248
0.06086	0.13993	0.48722	-0.78795	1.54606	-0.31248
-1.47342	-0.89703	-1.16304	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.16656	-0.86246	0.95872	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.62343	1.34972	0.01572	0.95412	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.11542	-0.81062	0.25147	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.93028	0.55472	-0.45578	1.62415	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.93028	2.38668	-0.92729	0.82011	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.47	0.13993	0.48722	1.35614	1.54606	-0.31248
1.33942	0.31276	0.01572	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.67457	3.07799	-0.55008	0.82011	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.33022	-0.79333	-1.16304	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.52456	-0.98344	-0.92729	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.52114	0.65841	0.01572	-0.78795	1.19064	-0.31248
0.67457	-0.11931	-1.16304	-0.78795	-0.40873	-0.31248



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-0.97222	-0.8953	-1.16304	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
1.59514	-0.20572	0.25147	-0.78795	-0.40873	-0.31248
-1.42227	-0.98344	-0.92729	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.67457	-0.20572	0.01572	1.49014	1.19064	-0.31248
-1.48876	-0.93159	-1.16304	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.26885	0.31276	0.01572	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
0.16314	-0.7242	2.37322	-0.78795	-0.58644	-0.31248
-1.37113	-0.94888	-1.06874	-0.73435	-0.40873	-0.31248

The value in Table 4 represents the single value of each crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre, crude ash, phosphorus and calcium for 30 manufactures data. Finally, the average of each nutrients i.e. crude protein, crude fat, crude fibre, crude ash, phosphorus and calcium are calculated to find the weightage.

Ranking of the priority and weightage of nutrients using inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores are shown in Table 5 and Table 6 respectively. Comparison of total nutrients based on these two methods is presented in Table 7. The main nutrients needed in formulating grouper fish feed using inversely proportional to the variance are phosphorus, second important nutrients is calcium, followed by crude fiber, crude ash, crude fat and lastly crude protein. In method of weighted sum of z-scores, the main nutrients needed in formulating grouper fish feed are crude ash, second important nutrients is crude protein, followed by phosphorus, crude fat, crude fiber and lastly calcium.

After consulting with experts, the ranking obtain from weighted sum of z-scores is more reflects real nutrients priority of grouper feed because crude protein is the main

source. Thus, the solution from weighted sum of z-scores method is considered in this study.

**Table. 5 Results Weightage of Inversely Proportional to the Variance**

Ranking	Nutrients	Weightage
1	Phosphorus	3.1580
2	Calcium	1.2164
3	Crude Fiber	0.2223
4	Crude Ash	0.01796
5	Crude Fat	0.02987
6	Crude Protein	0.002616

**Table. 6 Ranking Weightage of Weighted Sum of Z-scores in SPSS**

Ranking	Nutrients	Weightage
1	Crude Ash	0.9420
2	Crude Protein	0.8756
3	Phosphorus	0.8246
4	Crude Fat	0.7481
5	Crude Fiber	0.7418
6	Calcium	0.5625

**Table. 7 Results Comparison of Total Nutrients Based on two Methods**

Nutrients	Weightage sum of Z-scores	Inversely proportional to the variance
Crude Protein	0.8756	0.002616
Crude Fat	0.7481	0.02987
Crude Fiber	0.7418	0.2223
Crude Ash	0.9420	0.01896
Calcium	0.5625	1.2164
Phosphorus	0.8246	3.1580
Total Nutrients	4.4012	4.6471

**Table. 8 Result of T-test Analysis (One Sample Statistics) using SPSS**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Sumof	7	1.29940000	1.373062911	.518968999
Inversely	7	1.32774943	1.860033175	.703026459

T-test for two methods, which are inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores is shown in figure 1. Mean for weighted sum of z-scores and inversely proportional to the variance is 1.2994 and 1.3277 respectively. Standard deviation for weighted sum of z-scores and inversely proportional to the variance is 1.3731 and 1.8600 respectively.

T-test for difference between two independent means is demonstrated in Figure 1. Result shown that fails to reject the null hypothesis. In other words both methods are equally effective. However, when both methods are equally effective, priority of nutrients is the next considered, which is crude protein. This evidence is supported by Muhammadaret *al.* (2016).

Inversely proportional to the variance considers variance, sum of nutrients have very big variance, vice versa. Weighted sum of z-scores provides more reliable weightage that represent real problem. On top of that, the standard error term

includes all information, such as sample size and allele frequencies, thus providing optimal performance. This result supported by Cue Hyunkyuet *al.*, (2016), that obtained better result.

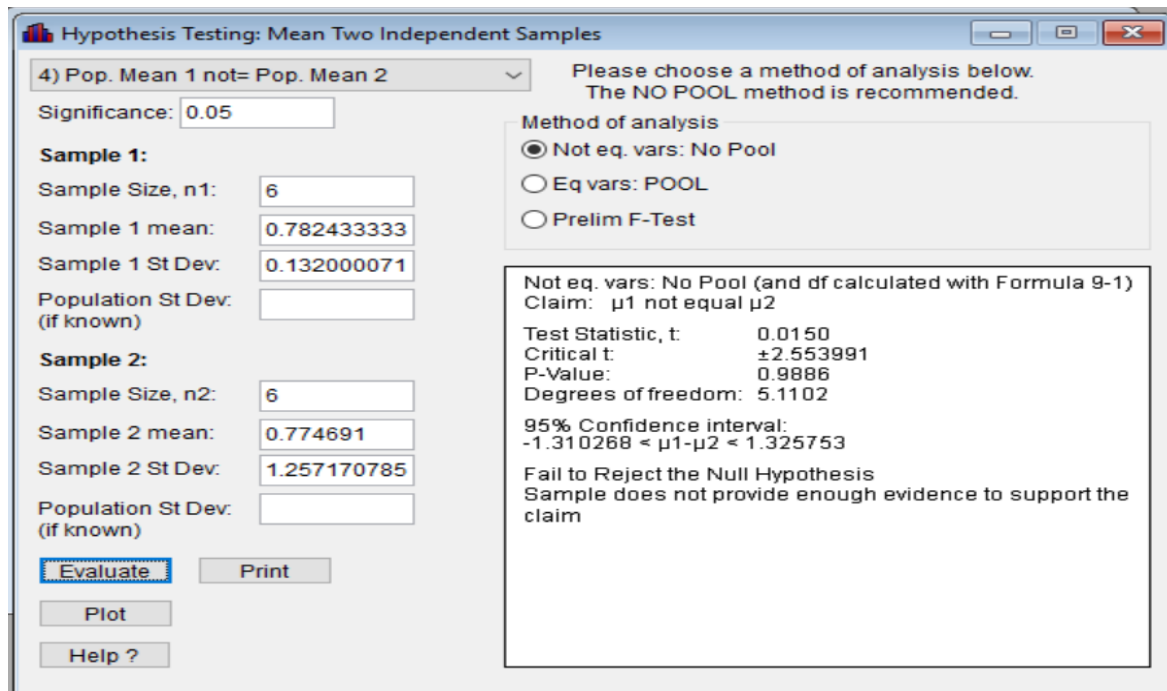


Fig. 1 T-test for Difference between Two Independent Means

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

Two weightage methods, inversely proportional to the variance and weighted sum of z-scores to implement the priority approach in formulating the Grouper feed mix is presented in this paper. A weighted sum of z-scores method proposed can be used, reasonable and applicable to the grouper fish feed formulation compare to inversely proportional to the variance method. Results show that the total nutrients of 4.4012 was obtained using weighted sum of z-scores whilst the total nutrients of 4.6471 was obtained using inversely proportional to the variance. It shown both methods are consistent. Thus, it reflects that this method weighted sum of z-scores is capable in its function of determining into potential alternatives and thus, improving the priority in formulating the problem of fish feed. As a conclusion, this research effort aids to unlock frontiers for extensive researchers in-depth on constructing formulation for Grouper fish feed.

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