

Overview

Point-Biserial Correlation and P-Values

We now discuss two simple statistics used to determine whether a test item is likely to be valid and reliable: point-biserial correlations and p-values.

The *point-biserial correlation* is the correlation between the right/wrong scores that students receive on a given item and the total scores that the students receive when summing up their scores across the remaining items. It is a special

Table 4: Computation of Total Score for Point-Biserial Correlation

Now let us examine Item 10, which shows an opposite pattern. Item 10 has a high point-biserial (0.40) and a low p-