

Peer Review

Review of: "A Statistical Investigation of the Synoptic Problem"

Ikwuoche John David¹

1. Federal University Wukari, Wukari, Nigeria

This work exposed the weaknesses of a shallow qualitative approach towards research of this manner by introducing a knowledge-advanced quantitative approach. Not only was over-dispersion handled using the Quasi-Poisson distribution, but still applying the negative Binomial distribution for comparison to ascertain the results obtained is commendable.

The approach used correctly analyses the word repetition across the 3 Gospels because the mean-variance equality will hardly exist, hence the use of the Quasi-Poisson analysis takes cognisance of that weakness in the Poisson model. If a qualitative approach were used, the whole analysis would end at the frequency of repeated words, which doesn't truly tell any difference but just indicates that one is higher than the rest.

However, despite the author making use of the negative Binomial distribution (NBD) for comparison, it would have been the first choice for the analysis after pre-analysis of the obtained data, which would clearly tell the level of the dispersion index. The NBD results would have been compared with other discrete distributions that handle over-dispersion, and in such a case, Poisson would be out of the race. Also, Poisson, Quasi-Poisson, and NBD plots of the fitted data would have been presented so as to see the distributional tendencies of the data.

But, the interpretations and the relevant discussions of the results and findings, respectively, are well articulated and presented. After reading the article, I must say it is a 5-star work.

Well done, David Gentile.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.