

The time-coordinate of the cutting point from any two individual linear SUV courses f and g, referred to as t_{ref} , is obtained by:

$$t_{ref} = \frac{a_g - a_f}{b_f - b_g} \quad \text{eq 1}$$

with a and b being the intercept and slope of the corresponding linear SUV course. As a next step, the individual intercepts a_f and a_g from line f and g are eliminated:

$$b_i(SUV_{t_0}) = a' + b' \cdot SUV_{t_0} \quad \text{eq 2}$$

From equation (2) for the secondary linear relationship between individual SUV slopes (b) and measured SUVs at a fixed time point (t_0) one can calculate the slope b_f and b_g of line f and line g in dependency on the intercept and slope, a' and b' , of the secondary underlying linear relationship and resolve equation 2 for the individual intercepts a_f and a_g (exemplarily shown for line f):

$$\begin{aligned} b_f &= a' + b' \cdot (a_f + b_f \cdot t_0) \\ \Rightarrow a_f &= \frac{b_f - a'}{b'} - b_f \cdot t_0 \end{aligned} \quad \text{eq 3}$$

This expression for a_f and a_g , respectively, can now be inserted into eq 1 yielding

$$\begin{aligned} t_{ref} &= \frac{\frac{b_g - a'}{b'} - b_g \cdot t_0 - (\frac{b_f - a'}{b'} - b_f \cdot t_0)}{b_f - b_g} \\ &= \frac{t_0(b_f - b_g) - \frac{(b_f - b_g)}{b'}}{b_f - b_g} \\ &= t_0 - \frac{1}{b'} \end{aligned} \quad \text{eq 4}$$

The resulting expression for t_{ref} is not dependent on any individual intercepts a_i nor on individual slopes b_i .

The SUV-coordinate of the reference point, i.e. SUV_{ref} , is found by inserting t_{ref} into any individual time course, e.g. line f:

$$SUV_{ref} = a_f + b_f \cdot (t_0 - \frac{1}{b'}) \quad \text{eq 5}$$

By inserting the expression for the individual intercept of line f (a_f from eq 3) one ends up with

$$\begin{aligned}SUV_{ref} &= \frac{b_f - a'}{b'} - b_f \cdot t_0 + b_f \cdot \left(t_0 - \frac{1}{b'}\right) \\ &= -\frac{a'}{b'}\end{aligned}$$

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