

THE ACCURACY OF SELF-ADJUSTABLE ADLENS AGAINST THE AUTO REFRACTOR RESULTS AND THE EFFECTS OF THESE SPECTACLES ON THE BINOCULAR VISION

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DOI: <https://doi.org/>

Keywords:

Self-adjustable Adlens, binocular vision, auto refractor

Article History

Received on 21 Feb, 2026

Accepted on 09 March, 2026

Published on 11 March, 2026

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Abstract

Adlens adjustable eyeglasses are constructed for use as a short term or supplementary pair of glasses. The power of the lenses can be adjusted from -6 to +3 diopters. There were 25 subjects aged between 18 to 35 years. All the participants had refractive errors were between the range of -6 to +3 D. There was no history of any ocular disease in any of the participants. The maximum amount of astigmatism in all the participants was not more than 2 D. Visual acuity was recorded binocularly and monocularly for both eyes. Phoria was measured using Maddox rod for distance and near and fixation disparity was also tested. Autorefraction based prescription was set in a trial frame and visual acuity and binocular tests were carried out in the same way. All the examinations were done randomly and the power of Adlens was assessed using a focimeter. The MSE for the right eye with both methods of refraction had a mean difference of -0.01 with standard deviation of ± 0.46 . The MSE for the left eye was -0.22 with standard deviation of ± 0.43 . The mean difference for J0 right eye was -0.03 with ± 0.44 SD. The mean difference for J0 left eye was 0.04 with ± 0.18 SD. The mean difference of J45 for right eye was -0.14 with ± 0.17 SD. J45 left eye mean difference was 0.23 with ± 0.19 SD. Similarly, binocular visual acuity mean difference was 0.06 with ± 0.07 SD. Mean difference in VA for right eye was 0.05 with ± 0.07 SD and for left eye mean difference was 0 and ± 0.08 SD. Bland Altman plots were created for all the variables regarding the two methods of refraction with 95% confidence interval.

Introduction:

Adlens adjustable eyeglasses are constructed for use as a short term or supplementary pair of glasses. The Adlens adjustable uses a poly-carbonate lenses that slides over each other to give a power range between -6.00 to +3.00 Diopters. It has zero astigmatic power at all spherical power settings and separate power adjustments for both right and left eye to cater the needs of an astigmatic patient. Self-Refractation through adjustable lenses enables patients to gain maximum image sharpness and get a required vision for varying distances. It is identical to refraction with trial lenses alone, but the process is lengthy and demands accurate adjustment. Its success relies on frequency of routine reliable adjustment and cases where there is minimal astigmatism present as there is only need of change in spherical power. These not only enables self-refraction but also provide the treatment. After the final adjustment the patient needs to keep the power of the Adlens fixed and used as corrective eyeglasses Durr, Nicholas J. (2014). According to Radhakrishnan and Hema (2017) there are some issues related to the use of Adlens such as incorrect adjustment of power for the vision which in turn can cause ocular disorders. Myopes are always at greater risk of developing ocular pathologies and needs a routine eye examination. Similarly, children and older people with dementia are also at a greater risk of incorrect power adjustment which can lead to ocular issues. Self-correction is also unsuitable for children, people with dyslexia, older people and people suffering from dementia. The effects of Adlens self-prescribing on binocular vision is an important factor in the progression and advancement of Adlens as binocular vision produces important visual perceptual skills which are a cornerstone of normal human vision and enables one to live a normal, healthy and independent life. So far there have been many studies regarding the use of Adlens self-adjustable but unfortunately not much research is done on its effects on binocular vision. According to the estimates of World Health Organization there are almost 150 million people visually impaired due to myopia, hyperopia or astigmatism out of which eight million are considered blind. There are almost one billion people affected by presbyopia out of which half does not have any type of visual correction for it. The deficiency of visual correction in these people depends on various factors which includes; high economical costs, infrastructure problems and inaccessibility to optical services. (S Barbero and J Rubinstein (2011)). One of the main drawback of the design of Adlens is that it is only possible to achieve clear vision at a specific distance at limited range of gaze directions as the eye needs to be directed through the desired area of the lens having appropriate correcting power. It has been advocated that if it was possible to make Adlens with full aperture lenses then the presbyopes could have also adjust the lens for any distance without any limitation of the gaze direction. He also suggested that these lenses have an advantage of correcting a wide range of spherical ametropia which in turn can be beneficial for the people living in the developing countries where they do not have access to eye testing and dispensing services due to high economic costs and because of limited amount of these facilities. There has been attempts to invent lenses with various combinations of optical, mechanical and electrical methods to change the lens power according to the need. 50 years ago, Alvarez lenses were introduced to cater for this need which includes two closely-spaced components translated laterally with respect to one another. The component in the zero-power position the thickness of the two elements. Radhakrishnan and Hema (2017).

Methodology

There were 25 participants in the study aged between 18-35 years. All these participants were volunteers sourced from friends and colleagues in the university. All the participants were briefed about the research study and procedures involved in the testing. Consent forms were also given to all the participants, which were read, understood and duly signed by them. All the participants were assigned a separate day for their participation in the tests involved in the research study Adlens adjustable were given to each participant and they were made seated at 6 meters from the logmar chart. They were instructed about the whole procedure

of its adjustment. They were asked to close their left eye and fixate through their right eye while looking at the logmar chart. The Adlens initial power was set at +3D, to eliminate unwanted accommodation. Accurate power of the Adlens was adjusted with the turn of the dial. Similarly, the same procedure was done while looking through the left eye and closing the right eye. They were also allowed to go out in the daylight and check whether the adjustment they have done is accurate according to their refractive error.

Focimetry Adlens:

The adjusted power of the Adlens spectacles were assessed using the manual focimeter. The spherical power was noted down along with the cylindrical power and its axis calculated from power vectors obtained from measurement of the three meridians i.e. 0°, 60° and 120°.

Visual acuity with Adlens:

Wearing their adjusted Adlens spectacles, the VA was recorded while seated at 6 meters from the logmar chart, first binocularly and then for the right eye and then the left eye.

Binocular vision tests with Adlens:

Two types of Binocular vision tests were performed on the subjects wearing their Adlens spectacles. First, the Maddox rod, was used to subjectively detect and measure latent, manifest, horizontal or vertical strabismus for near and distance.

Similarly, fixation disparity tests for distance and near were also carried out using the Mallett Unit Fixation Disparity Test wearing polarised glasses on top of Adlens.

Autorefractor:

Objective measurement of each subject refractive error was recorded with the cannon Autorefractor for both eyes. Autorefractor results were noted in the data sheet. Trial lenses were placed in the trial frame based on the prescription of autorefractor were given to wear by each subject.

Visual acuity with Autorefractor:

Visual acuity was recorded for each subject wearing trial lenses based on autorefractor's prescription. First, binocular VA was recorded asking the subject to read the smallest letter visible to them on the logmar chart while sitting at a distance of 6 meters. Similarly, VA for the right and left eye was recorded in the same way.

Binocular vision tests with Autorefractor based prescription:

Two types of Binocular vision tests were performed on the subjects wearing trial frame with lenses based on their autorefractor based prescription. First, the Maddox rod, was used to subjectively detect and measure a latent, manifest, horizontal or vertical strabismus for near and distance. Similarly, fixation disparity tests for distance and near were also carried out using the Mallett Unit Fixation Disparity Test wearing polarised glasses on top of the trial lens.

All the results were recorded on a separate data sheet with the initials of each subject's name.

Power vectors:

All the data from the SR and AR was converted to the power vector notation and was analysed for the three components i.e. MSE, J0 and J45.

The formulae used for all the three components were as following:

$$MSE = +(A3 + (B3 + 0.000001) / 2)$$

$$J0 = -(B3 + 0.000001) / 2 * \cos(C3 * 2 * \pi / 180) \quad J45 = -(B3 + 0.000001) / 2 * \sin(C3 * 2 * \pi / 180)$$

In the above formulae A3 refers to the spherical power, B3 refers to the cylindrical power and C3 refers to the axis of the first subject. The same method of conversion to power vectors was applied on the data of all the subjects and for both eyes separately.

Results:

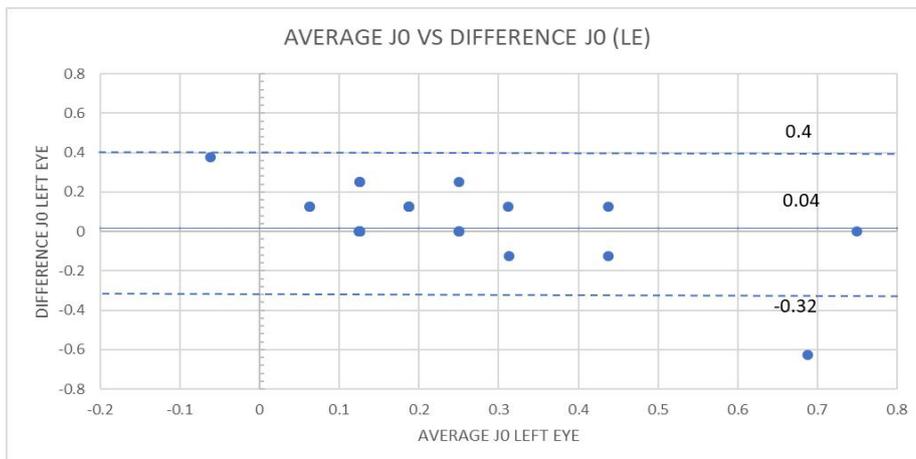
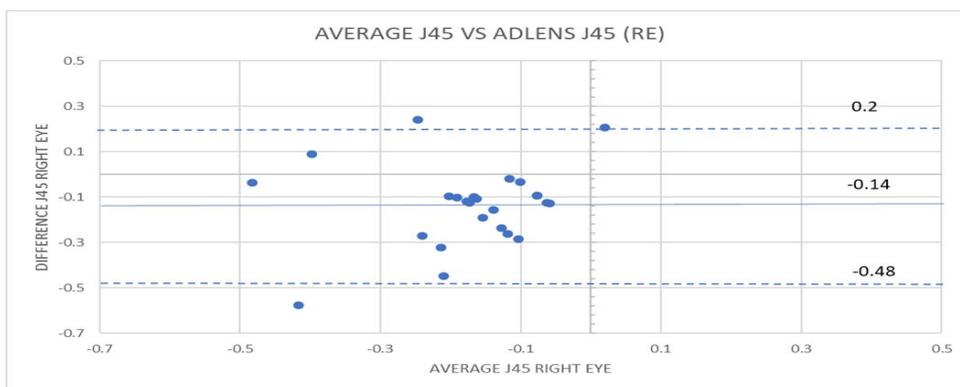


Fig1: Bland-Altman plot of the data obtained from the comparison of Average J0 and difference in J0 left eye. Correlation $R=0.6090$ ($P<0.01$). Slope= -0.6022 ($P<0.01$). Intercept= -0.1819 ($P<0.01$).

The regression of Average J0 and difference in J0 left eye shows that the correlation coefficient R is equal 0.6090 with $P<0.05$, which shows that there is a significant difference between the two variables. Similarly, the slope is equal to -0.6022 with $P<0.05$ also shows a significant difference. The intercept is equal to -0.1819 , $P<0.05$.

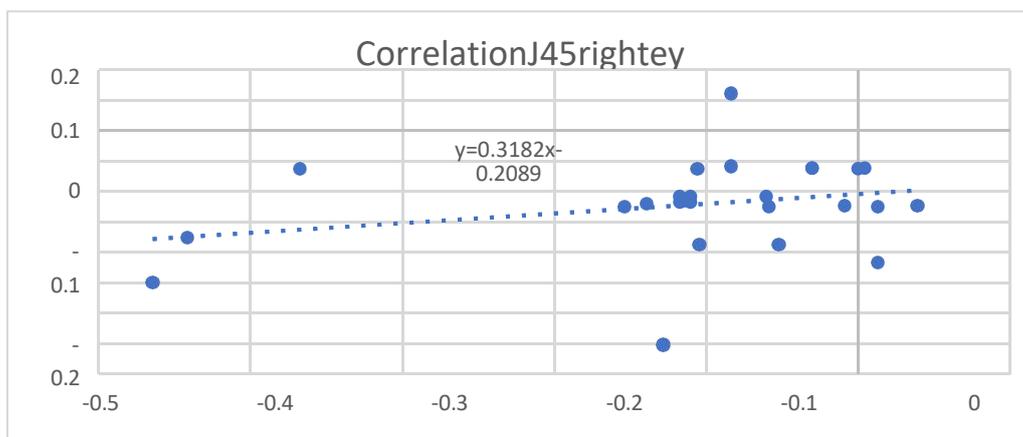
Fig2: Bland-Altman plot of the data obtained from the comparison of Average J45 and difference in J45 right eye. Correlation $R=0.1877$ ($P=0.36$). Slope= 0.2874 ($P=0.36$).



Intercept= -0.0849 ($P=0.20$).

The regression of Average J45 and difference in J45 right eye shows that the correlation coefficient R is equal 0.1877 with $P>0.05$, which shows that there is no significant difference between the two variables. Similarly, the slope is equal to 0.2847 with $P>0.05$ also shows no significant difference. The intercept is equal to -0.0849 , $P>0.05$.

Fig3: Scatterplot showing correlation between Autorefractor J45 and Adlens J45 for the right eye.



Both the variables show a positive correlation and the data is evenly distributed along the trendline. The coefficient of determination R^2 value for the correlation between J45 of the two methods for right eye is 0.0702, which shows the goodness of fit of the data.

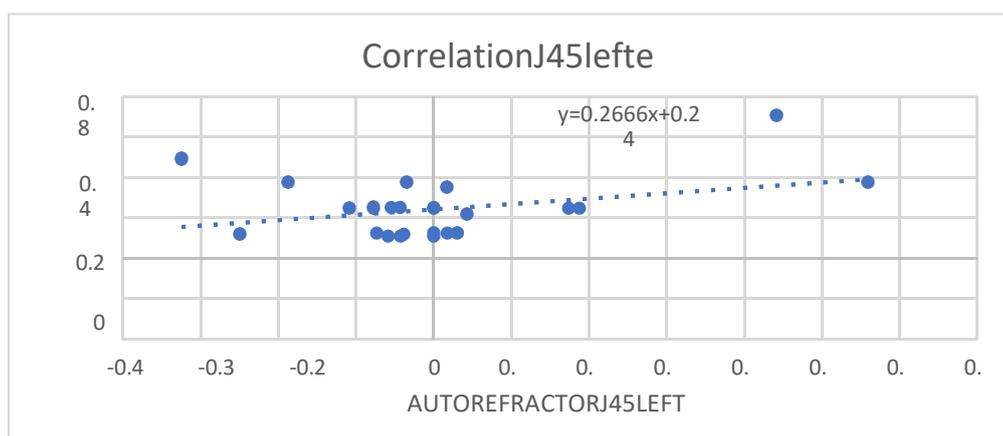


Fig4: Scatter plot showing correlation between Autorefractor J45 and Adlens J45 for the left eye.

Both the variables show a positive correlation and the data is evenly distributed along the trendline. The coefficient of determination R^2 value for the correlation between J45 of the two methods for left eye is 0.1163, which shows the goodness of fit of the data.

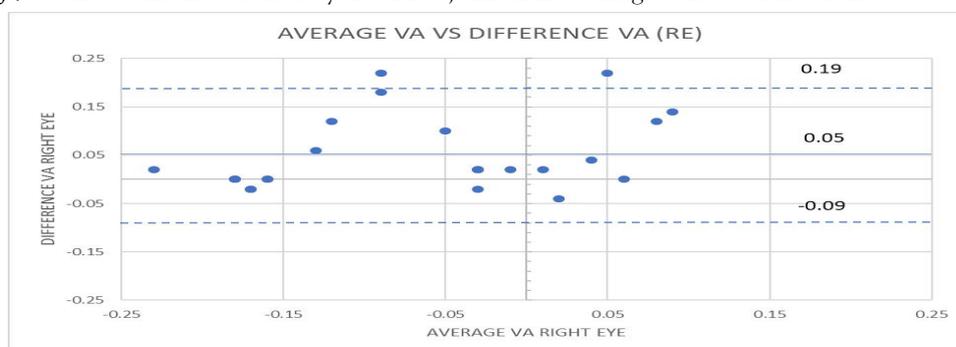
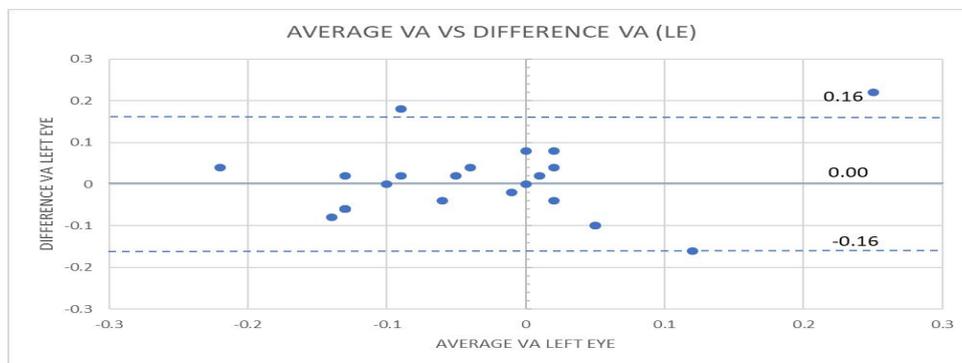


Fig5: Bland-Altman plot of the data obtained from the comparison of Average VA and difference in VA right eye. Correlation $R=0.3101$ ($P=0.13$). Slope= 0.2453 ($P=0.13$). Intercept= 0.0654 ($P<0.01$).

Regression of average VA and difference in VA right eye, shows that the correlation coefficient R is equal 0.3101 with $P>0.05$, which shows that there is no significant difference between the two variables. Similarly, the slope is equal to 0.2453 with $P>0.05$ also shows no significant difference. The intercept is equal to 0.0654, $P<0.05$.

Fig6: Bland-Altman plot of the data obtained from the comparison of Average VA and



difference in VA left eye. Correlation $R=0.2195$ ($P=0.29$). Slope= 0.1852 ($P=0.29$). Intercept= 0.0046 ($P=0.80$).

Discussion

Various studies regarding the self-correction of refractive errors are mainly interested in the measurement of spherical equivalent error and do not focus on the assessment of the astigmatic error and its axis. In this study the spherocylindrical refractive errors of the eye were assessed using self-refraction method using Adlens and automated refraction using Autorefractors. The results of both methods were further converted into power vector notation and the final results were analysed using excel. Out of 25 subjects only 3 subjects had astigmatism of more than 1D, where one subject had MSE of 4.625D in the right eye and -4.5D in the left eye with autorefraction. The MSE for the same subject with Adlens was 3.125 in the right and left eye both. This specific subject had a spherical error of -7 and -7.5 in the right and left eyes respectively and astigmatism of 2D in both eyes. Apart from these three subjects, the results of all the subjects showed good correlation with both methods of refraction and each subject achieved a visual acuity of ≤ 0.00 on the logmar scale except the subjects with astigmatism of more than 1D and also due to incorrect adjustment of the Adlens self-adjustable glasses. The MSE for self-refraction and autorefraction did not differ from each other except in three cases where there was a very high refractive error which was beyond the capacity of the Adlens and also due to Astigmatism of more than 1D which was an issue in only three cases. The results of the binocular vision tests with autorefraction and Adlens self-adjustable glasses which were carried out on all subjects did not show any difference with respect to each other. The results of phoria for distance and near with both autorefraction and Adlens self-adjustables did not have a significant difference except for the three subjects that were having astigmatism of more than 1D and also in the one specific subject who had a refractive error of more than -6D. As far as fixation disparity is concerned, the results with both the refraction methods were similar and were not affected with the use of either the self-refraction prescription or the autorefraction prescription.

Limitations of the study:

The sample size in this study was small as the data was only taken from 25 subjects. The refractive error of most of the participants in this study was minimal.

Conclusion

The results suggest that Adlens self-adjustables does not have any adverse effects on the binocular vision of the user. It is also indicated that the visual acuity can be improved using Adlens self-adjustable glasses. Though visual acuities can be improved it is still not possible to say whether such positive results will remain the same for all the users for a longer period of

time. There is dire need of further investigation in this regard where higher refractive errors and astigmatism of up to 2D is present. Similarly, contrast sensitivity and other binocular tests can also give good outcome about its use. It is also deduced that Adlens which works on Alvarez principle have constant spherical power and good image quality throughout which might decrease due to distance from optical centre and if some astigmatism is present.

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