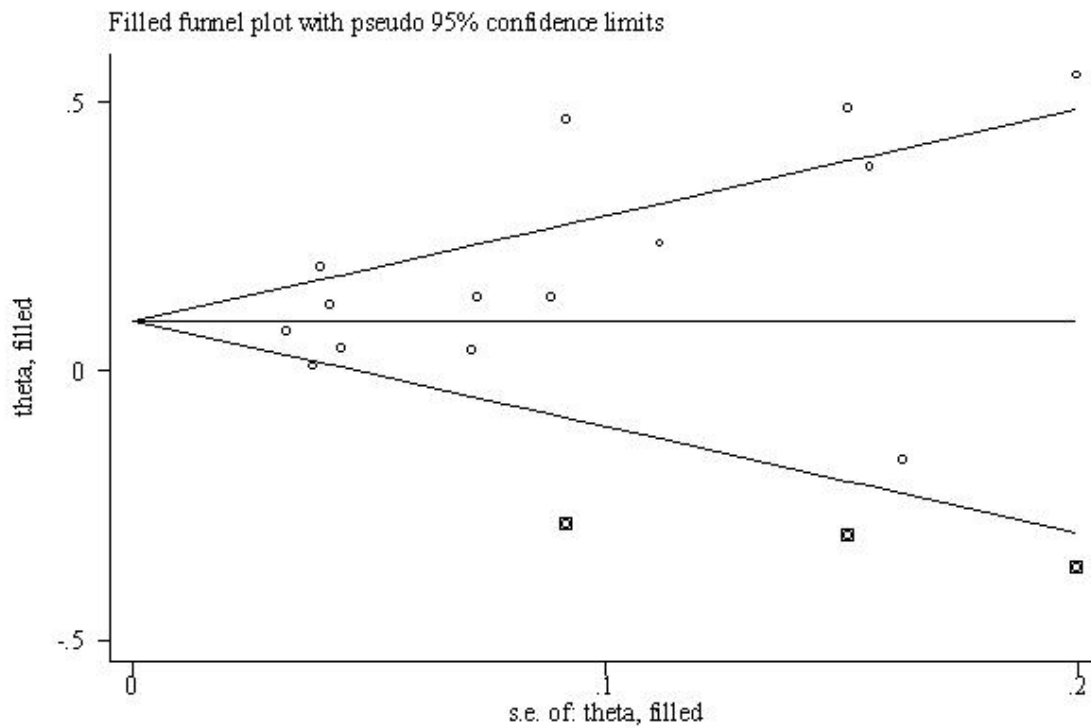


Appendix A Funnel plot after trim and fill studies.



Natural logarithm of risk ratio (log RR) of type 2 diabetes for 1 mg/dl increase in serum uric acid is plotted against the standard error (written as "s.e.") of log RR. As discussed in the text, the funnel plot was asymmetrical, which suggests evidence of publication bias. The hypothetical dummy studies indicated by circles within squares are added to the genuine studies indicated by circles.