

# Introduction (Module 1)



Statistics (MAST20005) &  
Elements of Statistics  
(MAST90058)

School of Mathematics and Statistics  
University of Melbourne

Semester 2, 2020

## Aims of this module

---

- Brief information about this subject
- Brief revision of some prerequisite knowledge (probability)
- Introduce some basic elements of statistics, data analysis and visualisation

# Outline

---

Subject information

Review of probability

Descriptive statistics

Basic data visualisations

# What is statistics?

---

Let's see some examples...



[Bureau Home](#) > [Australia](#) > [Victoria](#) > [Forecasts](#) > Melbourne Forecast

## Melbourne Forecast



[View the current warnings for Victoria](#)

Forecast issued at 5:05 am EST on Tuesday 17 July 2018.

### Forecast for the rest of Tuesday



Max **16**

**Showers developing. Windy.**

Possible rainfall: **1 to 3 mm**

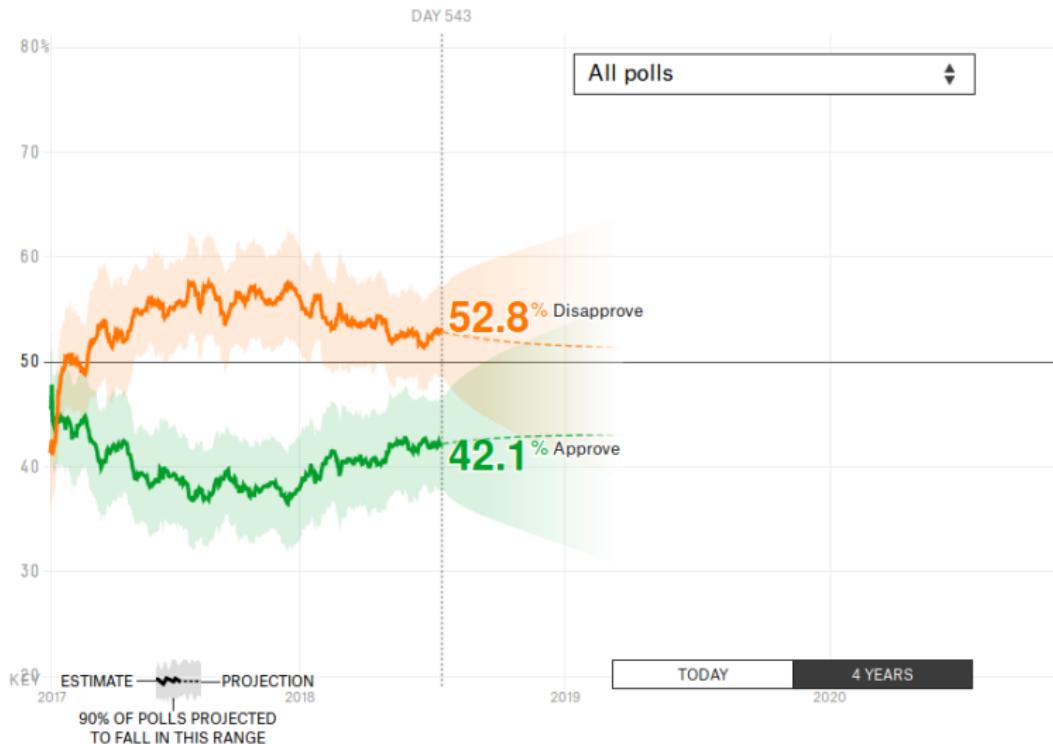
Chance of any rain: **80%**

#### Melbourne area

Sunny morning. High (80%) chance of showers during this afternoon and evening and the chance of hail and thunder. Winds northerly 25 to 40 km/h increasing to 40 to 55 km/h this morning then turning west to northwesterly 30 to 45 km/h in the late afternoon.

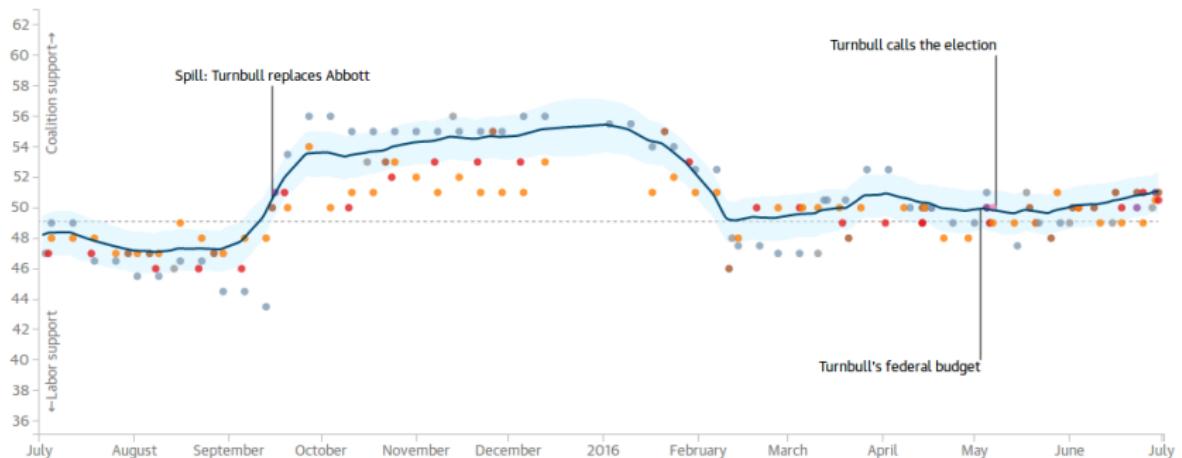
# How unpopular is Donald Trump?

An updating calculation of the president's approval rating, accounting for each poll's quality, recency, sample size and partisan lean. [How this works »](#)



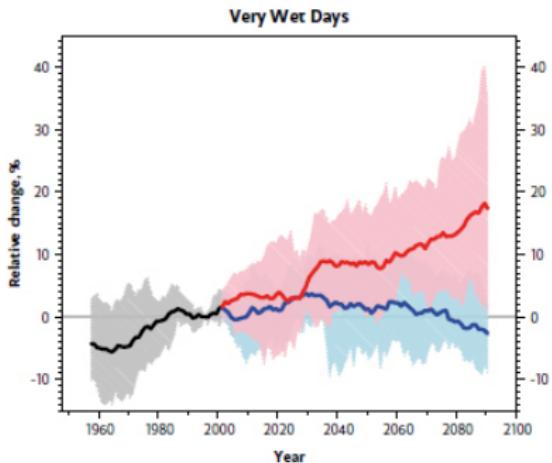
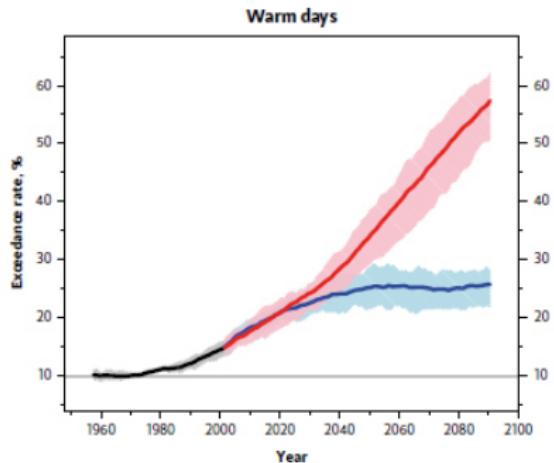
# Poll of polls: who will win the Australian election?

Newspoll Morgan Nielsen Galaxy Essential AMR Research ReachTEL Lonergan Ipsos Events CI

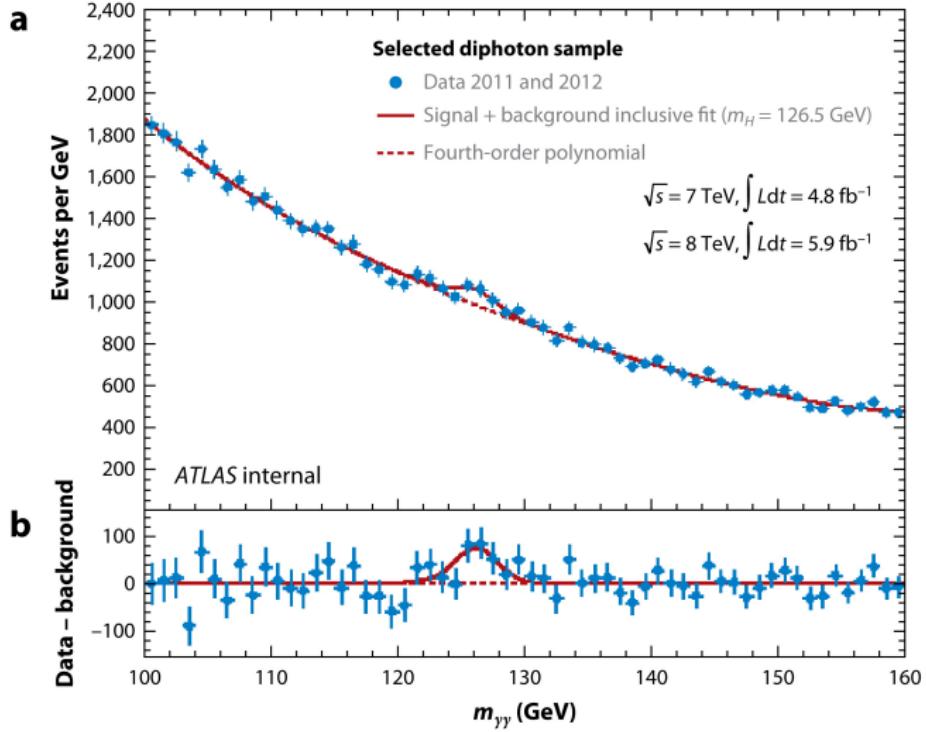


# Climate change modelling

---



# Discovery of the Higgs Boson (the ‘God Particle’)

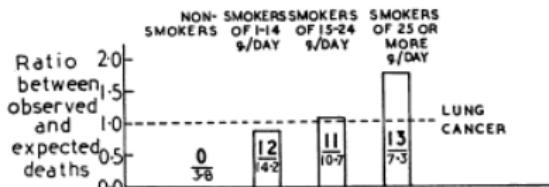


# Smoking leads to lung cancer

TABLE IV.—*Standardized Death Rate Per Annum Per 1,000 Men Aged 35 Years and Above in Relation to the Most Recent Amount of Tobacco Smoked*

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths Recorded	Death Rates of Non-smokers	Death Rates of Men Smoking a Daily Average of			Death Rate of All Men
			1 g.-	15 g.-	25 g.+	
Lung cancer ...	36*	0.00	0.48	0.67	1.14	0.66
Other cancers ...	92	2.32	1.41	1.50	1.91	1.65
Respiratory disease (other than cancer) ...	54	0.86	0.88	1.01	0.77	0.94
Coronary thrombosis ...	235	3.89	3.91	4.71	5.15	4.27
Other cardiovascular diseases ...	126*	2.23	2.07	1.58	2.78	2.14
Other diseases ...	247	4.27	4.67	3.91	4.52	4.36
All causes ...	789	13.61	13.42	13.38	16.30	14.00

\* 1 case in which lung cancer was recorded as a contributory but not a direct cause of death has been entered in both groups.



Richard Doll & A. Bradford Hill

"The Mortality of Doctors in Relation to Their Smoking Habits"  
British Medical Journal (1954)

## A/B testing for websites

---



Google

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

41 shades of blue?!

# Example: Zillow Real Estate Data

Screenshot of the Zillow real estate search interface for the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Header:** Zillow logo, navigation links (Buy, Rent, Sell, Mortgages, Agent finder, More), search bar ("San Francisco Bay Area"), filters (Listing Type, Any Price, 0+ Beds, Home Type, More), "Save Search" button, and "Saved Homes (0)" link.

**Search Results:** Message: "Only showing 500 homes. Zoom in, or use filters to narrow your search." Map of the San Francisco Bay Area with red dots indicating listing locations. Below the map, a section titled "Bay Area CA Real Estate" shows 9,876 homes for sale, 142 unmapped.

**Filter Options:** "Homes for You" (selected), Newest, Cheapest, More.

**Featured Listings:**

- HOUSE FOR SALE** \$490,000 4 bds • 2 ba • 1,827 sqft  
2658 Craig Ct, Castro Valley, CA  
Keller Williams Realty
- CONDOS FOR SALE** \$595,000 2 bds • 1 ba • 1,345 sqft  
77 Carl St, San Francisco, CA
- HOUSE FOR SALE** \$29,500,000 2 bds • 9.5 ba • 1,122 sqft  
2820 Scott St, San Francisco, CA  
Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty
- CONDOS FOR SALE** \$287,274 1 bd • 1 ba • 764 sqft  
1160 Mission St, UNIT 709, San Francisco, CA  
Segunia Real Estate

**Bottom:** "Open Sat. 1-4pm" and "Open Sun. 1-4pm" notices.

# THE INDEPENDENT



## Bipolar disorder

Also known as manic depression, it affects 100 million people around the world

## Hypertension

High blood pressure affects 16 million people in Britain. Can lead to stroke, heart disease and kidney failure

## Type 1 diabetes

Diabetic condition in which sufferers have to inject insulin. Affects 350,000 people in UK

## Type 2 diabetes

Almost 2 million Britons are affected by this late-onset disease, which is linked with the growing obesity epidemic

## Coronary heart disease

The most frequent cause of death in Britain, with 100,000 victims every year. By 2020, it will be the biggest killer in the world

## Rheumatoid arthritis

Nearly 400,000 people in Britain are afflicted with this auto-immune disease of the joints

## Crohn's disease

Up to 60,000 people are affected by this debilitating bowel condition which can cause distress and pain for a lifetime



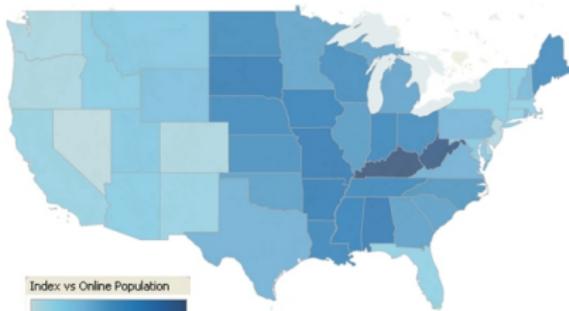
# THE GENETIC REVOLUTION

DISCOVERY OF GENES RESPONSIBLE FOR SEVEN OF THE MOST COMMON ILLNESSES OFFERS HOPE TO MILLIONS OF SUFFERERS

FULL STORY, PAGE 2

# Web analytics

---



## 2011 Black Friday Shoppers by State

Week ending November 26, 2011, compared with the Online Population

State	Visits Share	Visits Share	Index
	Black Friday 2011 Shoppers	Online Population	
1 California	10.05%	12.45%	81
2 Texas	7.93%	7.72%	103
3 New York	5.23%	6.08%	86
4 Illinois	4.88%	4.34%	112
5 Florida	4.88%	5.92%	82
6 Ohio	4.49%	3.66%	123
7 Pennsylvania	4.03%	4.01%	100
8 Georgia	3.57%	3.23%	111
9 Michigan	3.51%	3.23%	109
10 North Carolina	3.35%	2.92%	115



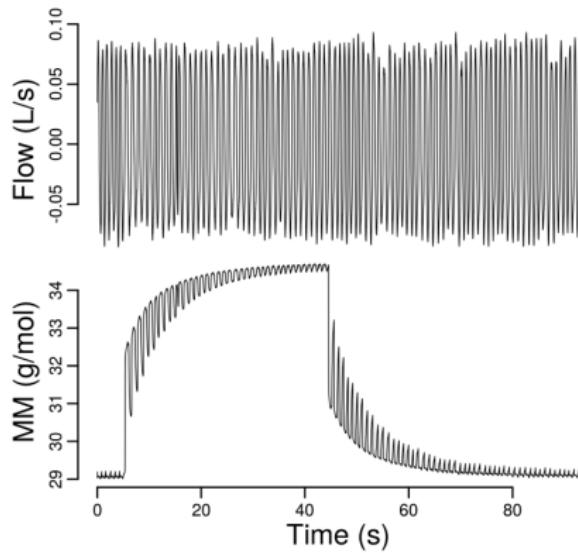
## 2011 Black Friday Shoppers by DMA

Week ending November 26, 2011, compared with the Online Population

DMA	Visits Share	Visits Share	Index
	Black Friday 2011 Shoppers	Online Population	
1 New York, NY	4.44%	6.51%	68
2 Los Angeles, CA	4.01%	4.91%	82
3 Chicago, IL	3.01%	3.04%	99
4 Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX	2.29%	2.21%	104
5 Atlanta, GA	2.12%	2.07%	102
6 Philadelphia, PA	1.98%	2.58%	77
7 Houston, TX	1.90%	1.84%	103
8 Boston et al, MA-NH	1.74%	2.10%	83
9 Washington et al, DC-MD	1.72%	2.04%	84
10 Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	1.61%	1.51%	107

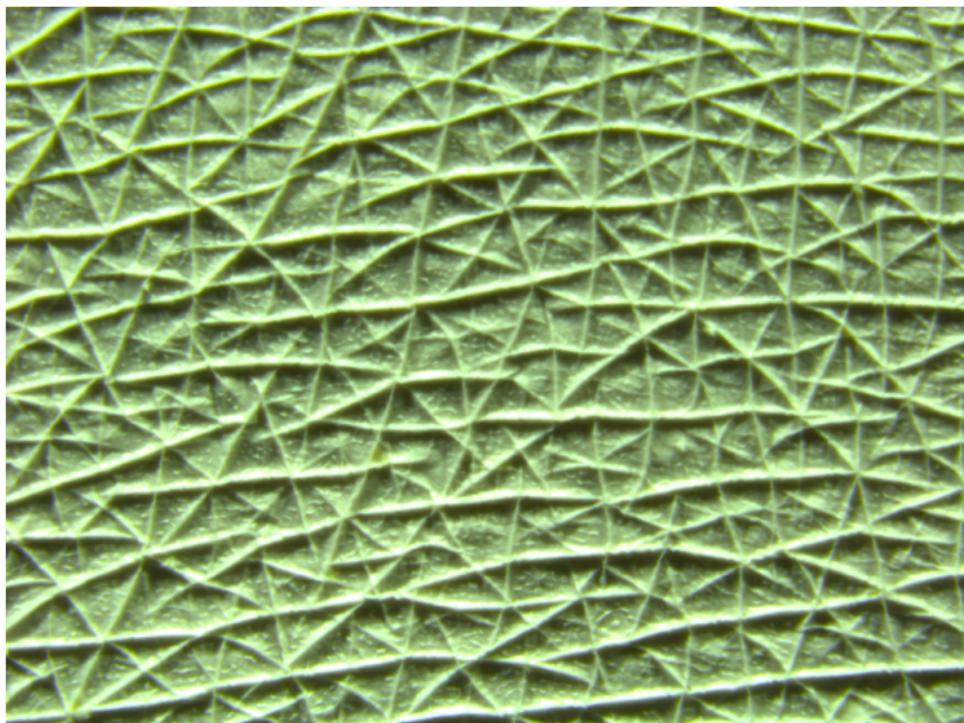
# Lung testing in infants

---



# Skin texture image analysis

---



# NEWS MAGAZINE

[Home](#) | [World](#) | [Asia](#) | [India](#) | [China](#) | [UK](#) | [Business](#) | [Health](#) | [Science/Environment](#) | [Technology](#) | [Entertainment](#)[Magazine](#) | [In Pictures](#) | [Also in the News](#) | [Editors' Blog](#) | [Have Your Say](#) | [World News TV](#) | [World Service](#)

1 February 2014 Last updated at 08:47



## A statistically modelled wedding

By Ruth Alexander  
BBC News



It's the classic dilemma for anyone planning a wedding. The list of friends and family you'd like to invite is seemingly endless. Your budget is not, and neither is the venue's floor space. Could one couple have found a solution via statistical modelling?

Damjan Vukcevic and Joan Ko, planning their wedding in Melbourne, Australia, were struggling to draw up an invitation list of family and friends in places as far-flung as Serbia, Taiwan, the UK and the US.

### In today's Magazine

The world's first church-mosque-synagogue?

The face of British

# Goals of statistics

---

- Answer questions using **data**
- Evaluate **evidence**
- Optimise **study design**
- Make **decisions**

And, importantly:

- Clarify **assumptions**
- Quantify **uncertainty**

## Why study statistics?

---

*“The best thing about being a statistician is that you get to play in everyone’s backyard.”*

—John W. Tukey (1915–2000)

*“I keep saying the sexy job in the next ten years will be statisticians... The ability to take data – to be able to understand it, to process it, to extract value from it, to visualize it, to communicate it's going to be a hugely important skill in the next decades...”*

—Hal Varian, Google's Chief Economist, Jan 2009

# The best job

---

U.S. News [Best Business Jobs](#) in 2020:

1. Statistician
2. Medical and Health Services Manager
3. Mathematician

CareerCast (recruitment website) [Best Jobs of 2019](#):

1. Data Scientist
2. Statistician
3. University Professor

## Subject overview

---

### **Statistics (MAST20005), Elements of Statistics (MAST90058)**

These subjects introduce the basic elements of **statistical modelling**, **statistical computation** and **data analysis**. They demonstrate that many commonly used statistical procedures arise as applications of a common theory. They are an entry point to further study of both **mathematical** and **applied** statistics, as well as broader data science.

Students will develop the ability to fit statistical models to data, estimate parameters of interest and test hypotheses. Both classical and Bayesian approaches will be covered. The importance of the underlying **mathematical theory of statistics** and the use of **modern statistical software** will be emphasised.

## Joint teaching

---

MAST20005 and MAST90058 share the same lectures but have separate tutorials and lab classes. The teaching and assessment material for both subjects will overlap significantly.

## Subject website (LMS)

---

- Full information is on the subject website, available through the Learning Management System (LMS).
- Only a brief overview is covered in these notes. Please read all of the info on the LMS as well.
- New material (e.g. problem sets, assignments, solutions) and announcements will appear regularly on the LMS.

## Subject structure

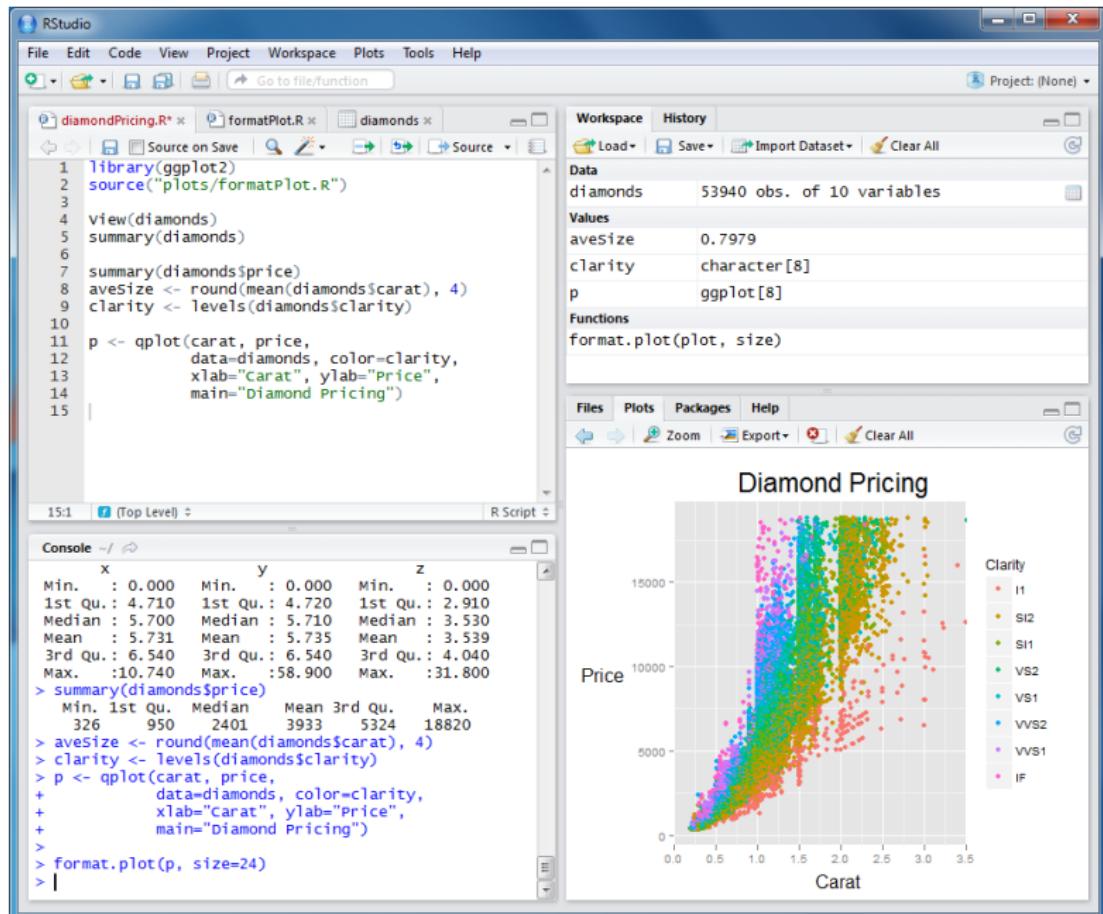
---

- **Lectures:** Three 1-hour lectures per week. Lecture notes/slides will appear on the LMS.
- **Tutorials:** One 1-hour tutorial per week (starting in week 2). Tutorial problems and solutions will appear on the LMS.
- **Computer lab classes:** One 1-hour lab per week (starting in week 2), immediately following the tutorial. Lab notes, exercises and solutions will appear on the LMS.

# Computing

---

- This subject introduces basic statistical computing and programming skills.
- We make extensive use of the [R statistical software environment](#).
- Knowledge of R will be **essential** for some of the tutorial problems, assignment questions and will also be examined.
- We will use the [RStudio](#) program as a convenient interface with R.



## Textbook

---

R. Hogg, E. Tanis, and D. Zimmerman. *Probability and Statistical Inference*. 9th Edition, Pearson, 2015.

- This subject is based on Chapters 6–9.
- Some of the teaching material is taken from the textbook.
- This textbook is being **phased out** for this subject.
- There are **important differences** between the subject content and the textbook. We will point many of these out, but please ask if unsure.

# Assessment

---

- 3 assignments (20%)
  1. Hand out at the start of week 4, due at the end of week 5
  2. Hand out at the start of week 7, due at the end of week 8
  3. Hand out at the start of week 10, due at the end of week 11
- 45-minute computer lab test held in week 12 (10%)
- 3-hour written examination in the examination period (70%)

## Plagiarism declaration

---

- Everyone must complete the **Plagiarism Declaration Form**
- Do this on the LMS
- Do this ASAP!

## Staff contacts

---

### **Subject coordinator / Lecturer (stream 2)**

Dr Tingjin Chu <[tingjin.chu@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:tingjin.chu@unimelb.edu.au)>

### **Lecturer (stream 1)**

Dr Damjan Vukcevic <[damjan.vukcevic@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:damjan.vukcevic@unimelb.edu.au)>

### **Tutorial coordinator**

Ms Martina Hoffmann <[martina.hoffmann@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:martina.hoffmann@unimelb.edu.au)>

*See the LMS for details of consultation hours*

## Online discussion forum (Piazza)

---

- Access via the LMS
- Post any general questions on the forum
- Do **not** send them by email to staff
- You can answer each others' questions
- Staff will also help to answer questions

## Student representatives

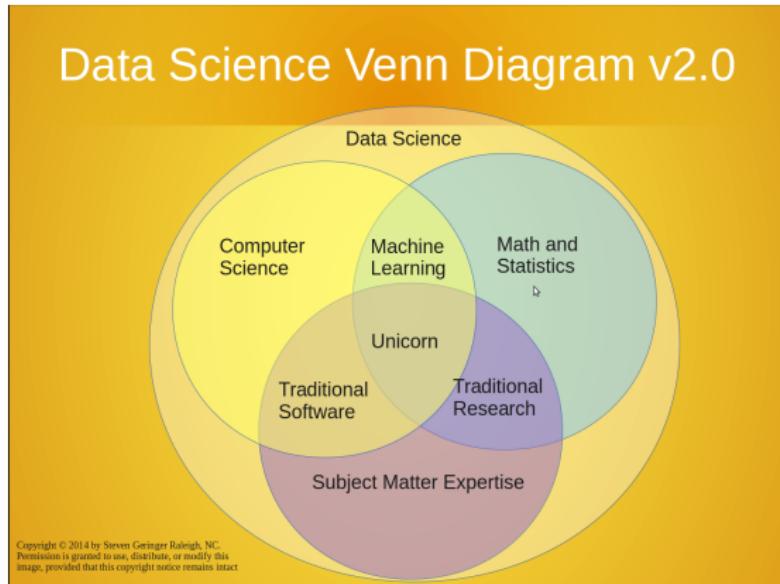
---

Student representatives assist the teaching staff to ensure good communication and feedback from students.

See the LMS to find the contact details of your representatives.

# What is Data Science?

---



Data science is a 'team sport'

## How to succeed in statistics / data science?

---

- Get experience with **real data**
- Develop your computational skills, **learn R**
- Understand the **mathematical theory**
- Collaborate with others, **use Piazza**

# This subject is challenging

---

- It is mathematical
  - Manipulating equations
  - Calculus
  - Probability
  - Proofs
- But the ‘real’ world also matters
  - Context can ‘trump’ mathematics
  - More than one correct answer
  - Often uncertain about the answer

# Diversity

---

In 2017: **341 students**

---

- 60% Bachelor of Commerce
  - 24% Bachelor of Science
  - 6% Master of Science (Bioinformatics)
  - 10% 8 other degrees/categories
- 

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

## Get extra help

---

- Your classmates
- Piazza
- Textbooks
- **Consultation hours**
- Oasis

# Homework

---

1. Complete plagiarism declaration on the [LMS](#)
2. Log in to Piazza
3. Install [RStudio](#) on your computer
4. Start reading lab notes for week 2 (long!)

## Tips

---

The best way to learn statistics is by **solving problems** and '**getting your hands dirty**' with data.

We encourage you to attend all lectures, tutorial and computer labs to get as much practice and feedback as possible.

Good luck!

# Outline

---

Subject information

Review of probability

Descriptive statistics

Basic data visualisations

## Why probability?

---

- It forms the mathematical foundation for statistical models and procedures
- Let's review what we know already...

## Random variables (notation)

---

- Random variables (rvs) are denoted by uppercase letters:  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ , etc.
- Outcomes, or realisations, of random variables are denoted by corresponding lowercase letters:  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ , etc.

## Distribution functions

---

- The cumulative distribution function (cdf) of  $X$  is

$$F(x) = \Pr(X \leq x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

- If  $X$  is a continuous rv then it has a probability density function (pdf),  $f(x)$ , that satisfies

$$f(x) = F'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F(x)$$

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt$$

- If  $X$  is a discrete rv then it has a **probability mass function (pmf)**,

$$p(x) = \Pr(X = x), \quad x \in \Omega$$

where  $\Omega$  is a discrete set, e.g.  $\Omega = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ .

- $\Pr(X > x) = 1 - F(x)$  is called a **tail probability** of  $X$
- $F(x)$  increases to 1 as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  and decreases to 0 as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$
- If the rv has a certain distribution with pdf  $f$  (or pmf  $p$ ), we write

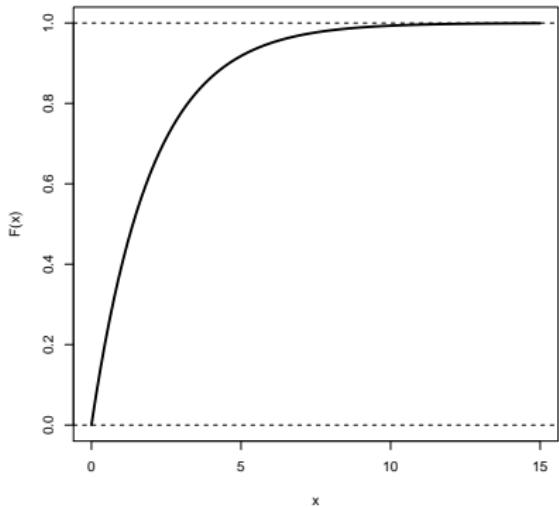
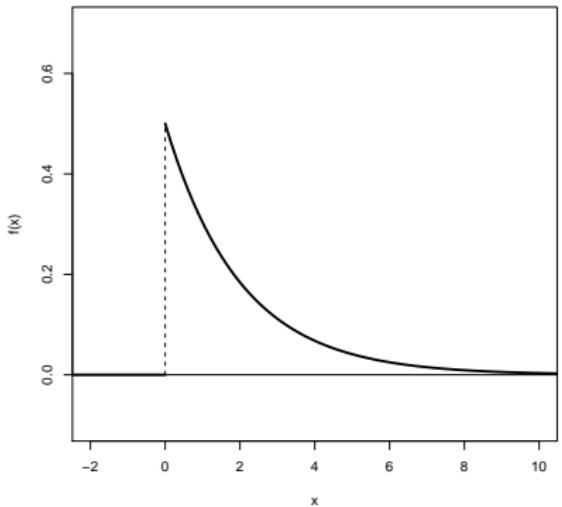
$$X \sim f \quad (\text{or } X \sim p)$$

## Example: Unemployment duration

---

A large group of individuals have recently lost their jobs. Let  $X$  denote the length of time (in months) that any particular individual will stay unemployed. It was found that this was well-described by the following pdf:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}e^{-x/2}, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



Clearly,  $f(x) \geq 0$  for any  $x$  and the total area under the pdf is:

$$\Pr(-\infty < X < \infty) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}e^{-x/2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -2e^{-x/2} \right]_0^{\infty} = 1.$$

The probability that a person in the population finds a new job within 3 months is:

$$\Pr(0 \leq X \leq 3) = \int_0^3 \frac{1}{2}e^{-x/2} dx = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -2e^{-x/2} \right]_0^3 = 0.7769.$$

## Example: Received calls

---

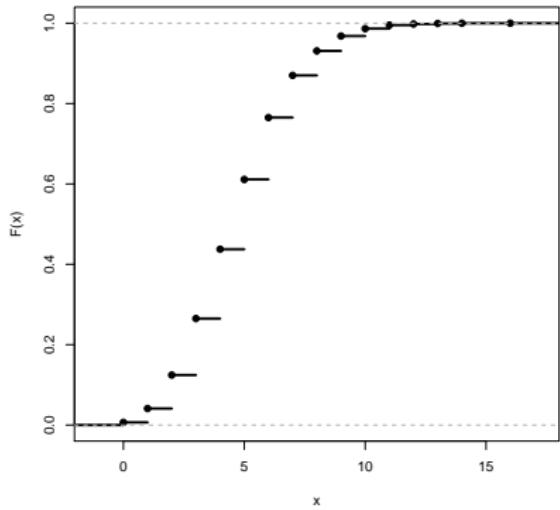
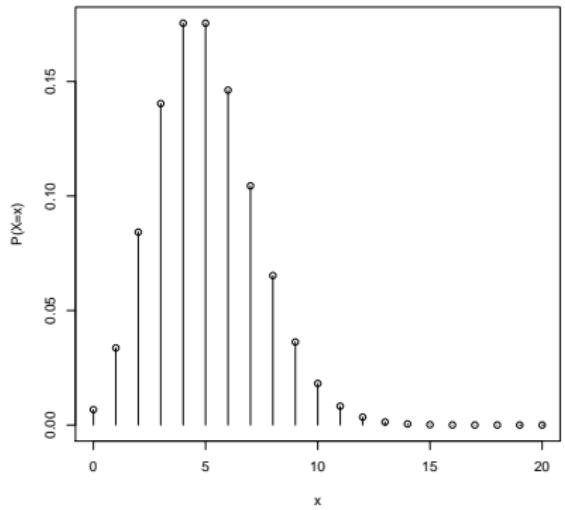
The number of calls received by an office in a given day,  $X$ , is well-represented by a pmf with the following expression:

$$p(x) = \frac{e^{-5} 5^x}{x!}, \quad x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\},$$

where  $x! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdots (x - 1) \cdot x$  and  $0! = 1$ . For example,

$$\Pr(X = 1) = e^{-5} 5 = 0.03368$$

$$\Pr(X = 3) = \frac{e^{-5} 5^3}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 0.1403$$



To show that  $p(x)$  is a pmf we need to show

$$\sum_{x=0}^{\infty} p(x) = p(0) + p(1) + p(2) + \cdots = 1.$$

Since the Taylor series expansion of  $e^z$  is  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} z^i/i!$ , we can write

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-5} 5^x}{x!} = e^{-5} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{5^x}{x!} = e^5 e^{-5} = 1.$$

## Moments and variance

---

- The **expected value** (or the **first moment**) of a rv is denoted by  $\mathbb{E}(X)$  and

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} x p(x) \quad (\text{discrete rv})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \quad (\text{continuous rv})$$

- Higher moments**,  $\mu_k = \mathbb{E}(X^k)$ , for  $k \geq 1$ , can be obtained by

$$\mathbb{E}(X^k) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} x^k p(x) \quad (\text{discrete rv})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X^k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^k f(x) dx \quad (\text{continuous rv})$$

- More generally for a function  $g(x)$  we can compute

$$\mathbb{E}(g(X)) = \sum_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)p(x) \quad (\text{discrete rv})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(g(X)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f(x) dx \quad (\text{continuous rv})$$

Letting  $g(x) = x^k$  gives the moments.

- The **variance** of  $X$  is defined by

$$\text{var}(X) = \mathbb{E} \left\{ (X - \mathbb{E}(X))^2 \right\}$$

and the **standard deviation** of  $X$  is  $\text{sd}(X) = \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$

- “Computational” formula:  $\text{var}(X) = \mathbb{E}(X^2) - \{\mathbb{E}(X)\}^2$

## Basic properties of expectation and variance

---

- For any rv  $X$  and constant  $c$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(cX) = c\mathbb{E}(X), \quad \text{var}(cX) = c^2 \text{var}(X)$$

- For any two rvs  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(X + Y) = \mathbb{E}(X) + \mathbb{E}(Y)$$

- For any two **independent** rvs  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y)$$

- More generally,

$$\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y) + 2 \text{cov}(X, Y)$$

where  $\text{cov}(X, Y)$  is the **covariance** between  $X$  and  $Y$

# Covariance

---

- Definition of covariance:

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E} \{(X - \mathbb{E}(X))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))\}$$

- Specifically, for the continuous case

$$\text{cov}(X, Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mathbb{E}(X))(y - \mathbb{E}(Y))f(x, y) dx dy$$

where  $f(x, y)$  is the bivariate pdf for pair  $(X, Y)$ .

- “Computational” formula:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}(X, Y) &= \mathbb{E}\{(X - \mathbb{E}(X))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}(XY) - \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y)\end{aligned}$$

## Correlation

---

- If  $\text{cov}(X, Y) > 0$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are **positively correlated**
- If  $\text{cov}(X, Y) < 0$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are **negatively correlated**
- If  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are **uncorrelated**
- The **correlation** between  $X$  and  $Y$  is defined as:

$$\rho = \text{cor}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\text{sd}(X) \text{sd}(Y)}, \quad -1 \leq \rho \leq 1$$

- When  $\rho = \pm 1$  then  $X$  and  $Y$  are perfectly correlated

## Moment generating functions

---

- A **moment generating function (mgf)** of a rv  $X$  is

$$M_X(t) = \mathbb{E}(e^{tX}), \quad t \in (-\infty, \infty)$$

- It enables us to generate moments of  $X$  by differentiating at  $t = 0$

$$M'_X(0) = \mathbb{E}(X)$$

$$M_X^{(k)}(0) = \mathbb{E}(X^k), \quad k \geq 1$$

- The mgf uniquely determines a distribution. Hence, knowing the mgf is the same as knowing the distribution.
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent rvs,

$$M_{X+Y}(t) = \mathbb{E}\{e^{t(X+Y)}\} = \mathbb{E}\{e^{tX}\} \mathbb{E}\{e^{tY}\} = M_X(t)M_Y(t)$$

i.e. the mgf of the sum is the product of individual mgfs.

## Bernoulli distribution

---

- $X$  takes on the values 1 (success) or 0 (failure)
- $X \sim \text{Be}(p)$  with pmf

$$p(x) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x}, \quad x \in \{0, 1\}$$

- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = p$$

$$\text{var}(X) = p(1-p)$$

$$M_X(t) = pe^t + 1 - p$$

## Binomial distribution

---

- $X \sim \text{Bi}(n, p)$  with pmf

$$p(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}, \quad x \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$$

- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = np$$

$$\text{var}(X) = np(1-p)$$

$$M_X(t) = (pe^t + 1 - p)^n$$

## Poisson distribution

---

- $X \sim \text{Pn}(\lambda)$  with pmf

$$p(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}, \quad x \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$$

- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \text{var}(X) = \lambda$$

$$M_X(t) = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$$

- It arises as an approximation to  $\text{Bi}(n, p)$ . Letting  $\lambda = np$  gives

$$p(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \approx e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $p \rightarrow 0$ .

# Uniform distribution

---

- $X \sim \text{Unif}(a, b)$  with pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}, \quad x \in (a, b)$$

- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \frac{(a+b)}{2}$$

$$\text{var}(X) = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{e^{tb} - e^{ta}}{t(b-a)}$$

- If  $b = 1$  and  $a = 0$ , this is known as the uniform distribution over the unit interval.

## Exponential distribution

---

- $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  with pdf

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, \quad x \in [0, \infty)$$

- It approximates “time until first success” for independent  $\text{Be}(p)$  trials every  $\Delta t$  units of time with  $p = \lambda \Delta t$  and  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$
- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = 1/\lambda$$

$$\text{var}(X) = 1/\lambda^2$$

$$M_X(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - t}$$

- It is famous for being the only continuous distribution with the **memoryless property**:

$$\Pr(X > y + x \mid X > y) = \Pr(X > x), \quad x \geq 0, \quad y \geq 0.$$

## Normal distribution

---

- $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}, \quad x \in (-\infty, \infty), \quad \mu \in (-\infty, \infty), \quad \sigma > 0$$

- It is important in applications because of the Central Limit Theorem (CLT)

- Properties:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \mu$$

$$\text{var}(X) = \sigma^2$$

$$M_X(t) = e^{t\mu + t^2\sigma^2/2}$$

- When  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = 1$  we have the **standard normal distribution**.
- If  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \sim N(0, 1)$$

# Quantiles

---

Let  $X$  be a continuous rv. The  $p$ th **quantile** of its distribution is a number  $\pi_p$  such that  $p = \Pr(X \leq \pi_p) = F(\pi_p)$ .

In other words, the area under  $f(x)$  to the left of  $\pi_p$  is  $p$ :

$$p = \int_{-\infty}^{\pi_p} f(x) dx = F(\pi_p)$$

- $\pi_p$  is also called the  $(100p)$ th **percentile**
- The 50th percentile (0.5 quantile) is the **median**, denoted by  $m = \pi_{0.5}$
- The 25th and 75th percentiles are the first and third **quartiles**, denoted by  $q_1 = \pi_{0.25}$  and  $q_3 = \pi_{0.75}$

## Example: Weibull distribution

---

The time  $X$  until failure of a certain product has the pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{3x^2}{4}e^{-(x/4)^3}, \quad x \in (0, \infty).$$

The cdf is

$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-(x/4)^3}, \quad x \in (0, \infty)$$

Then  $\pi_{0.3}$  satisfies  $0.3 = F(\pi_{0.3})$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - e^{-(\pi_{0.3}/4)^3} &= 0.3 \\ \Rightarrow \ln(0.7) &= -(\pi_{0.3}/4)^3 \\ \Rightarrow \pi_{0.3} &= -4(\ln 0.7)^{1/3} = 2.84. \end{aligned}$$

## Law of Large Numbers (LLN)

---

Consider a collection  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  of independent and identically distributed (**iid**) random variables with  $\mathbb{E}(X) = \mu < \infty$ , then with probability 1 we have:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow \mu, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

The LLN ‘guarantees’ that long-run averages behave as we expect them to:

$$\mathbb{E}(X) \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i.$$

## Central Limit Theorem (CLT)

---

Consider a collection  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  of iid rvs with  $\mathbb{E}(X) = \mu < \infty$  and  $\text{var}(X) = \sigma^2 < \infty$ . Let,

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i.$$

Then

$$\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$$

follows a  $N(0, 1)$  distribution as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

This is an extremely important theorem!

It provides the ‘magic’ that will make statistical analysis work.

## Example

---

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_{25}$  be iid rvs where  $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda = 1/5)$ .

Recall that  $\mathbb{E}(X) = 5$ .

Thus, the LLN implies

$$\bar{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(X) = 5.$$

Moreover, since  $\text{var}(X) = 1/\lambda^2 = 25$ , we have

$$\bar{X} \approx N\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}, \frac{1}{n\lambda^2}\right) = N\left(5, \frac{5^2}{25}\right)$$

Is  $n = 25$  large enough?

## A simulation exercise

---

Generate  $B = 1000$  samples of size  $n$ . For each sample compute  $\bar{x}$ .  
The continuous curve is the normal  $N(5, 5^2/n)$  distribution prescribed  
by the CLT.

Sample 1:  $x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_n^{(1)} \rightarrow \bar{x}^{(1)}$

Sample 2:  $x_1^{(2)}, \dots, x_n^{(2)} \rightarrow \bar{x}^{(2)}$

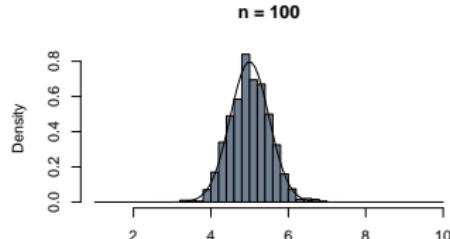
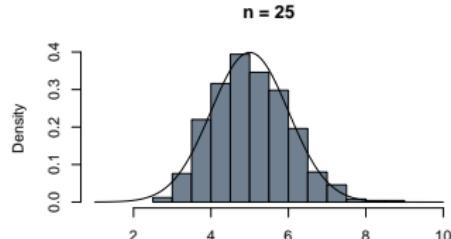
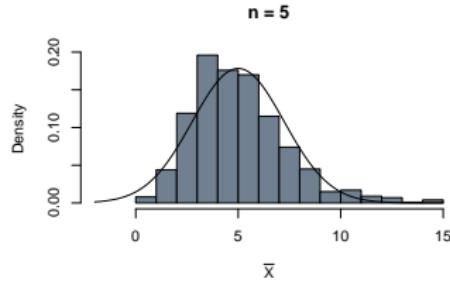
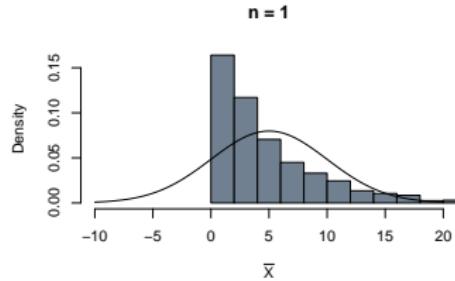
⋮

Sample B:  $x_1^{(B)}, \dots, x_n^{(B)} \rightarrow \bar{x}^{(B)}$

Then represent the distribution of  $\{\bar{x}^{(b)}, b = 1, \dots, B\}$  by a histogram.

# A simulation exercise

The distribution of  $\bar{X}$  approaches the theoretical distribution (CLT). Moreover it will be more and more concentrated around  $\mu$  (LLN). To see this, note that  $\text{var}(\bar{X}) = \sigma^2/n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .



## Challenge problem

---

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{25}$  be iid rvs with pdf  $f(x) = ax^3$  where  $0 < x < 2$ .

1. What is the value of  $a$ ?
2. Calculate  $\mathbb{E}(X_1)$  and  $\text{var}(X_1)$ .
3. What is an approximate value of  $\Pr(\bar{X} < 1.5)$ ?

# Outline

---

Subject information

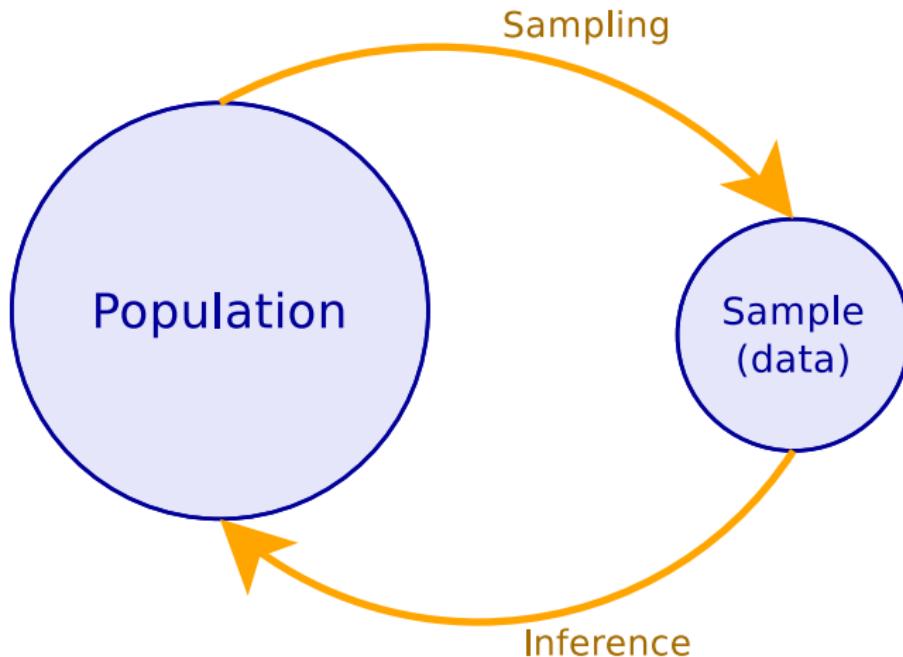
Review of probability

Descriptive statistics

Basic data visualisations

# Statistics: the big picture

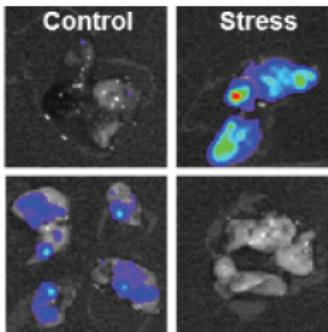
---



## Example: Stress and cancer

---

- An experiment gives independent measurements on 10 mice
- Mice are divided in control and stress groups
- The biologist considers two different proteins:
  - Vascular endothelial growth factor C (VEGFC)
  - Prostaglandin-endoperoxide synthase 2 (COX2)



Mouse	Group	VEGFC	COX2
1	Control	0.96718	14.05901
2	Control	0.51940	6.92926
3	Control	0.73276	0.02799
4	Control	0.96008	6.16924
5	Control	1.25964	7.32697
6	Stress	4.05745	6.45443
7	Stress	2.41335	12.95572
8	Stress	1.52595	13.26786
9	Stress	6.07073	55.03024
10	Stress	5.07592	29.92790

## Data & sampling

---

- The **data** are numbers:

$$x_1, \dots, x_n$$

- The model for the data is a **random sample**, that is a sequence of iid rvs:

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$$

This model is equivalent to random selection from a hypothetical infinite **population**.

- The goal is to use the data to learn about the distribution of the random variables (and, therefore, the population).

# Statistic

---

- A **statistic**  $T = \phi(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is a function of the sample and its realisation is denoted by  $t = \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .
- Note: the word “statistic” can also be used to refer to both the realisation,  $t$ , as well as the random variable,  $T$ . Sometime need to be more specific about which one is meant.
- A statistic has two purposes:
  - Describe or summarise the sample — **descriptive statistics**
  - Estimate the distribution generating the sample — **inferential statistics**
- A statistic can be both descriptive and inferential, it depends on how you wish to use/interpret it (see later)
- We now introduce some commonly used descriptive statistics...

## Moment statistics

---

$$\text{Sample mean} = \bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \frac{23.59}{10} = 2.359$$

$$\text{Sample variance} = s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 = 3.98761$$

$$\text{Sample standard deviation} = s = \sqrt{3.98761} = 1.9969$$

These are ‘sample’ or ‘empirical’ versions of moments of a random variable

Empirical means ‘derived from the data’

## Order statistics

---

Arrange the sample  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  in order of increasing magnitude and define:

$$x_{(1)} \leq x_{(2)} \leq \cdots \leq x_{(n)}$$

Then  $x_{(k)}$  is the *k*th order statistic.

Special cases:

- $x_{(1)}$  is the sample minimum
- $x_{(n)}$  is the sample maximum

For the example data,

$$x_{(1)} = 0.52, \quad x_{(2)} = 0.73, \quad \dots, \quad x_{(10)} = 6.07$$

What is  $x_{(3.25)}$ ?

Let it be 0.25 of the way from  $x_{(3)}$  to  $x_{(4)}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}x_{(3.25)} &= x_{(3)} + 0.25 \cdot (x_{(4)} - x_{(3)}) \\&= 0.96 + 0.25 \cdot (0.97 - 0.96) \\&= 0.9625\end{aligned}$$

In other words, define it via **linear interpolation**.

Exercise: verify that  $x_{(7.75)} = 3.6480$

Why do this? It allows us to define...

## Sample quantiles

---

General definition ('Type 7' quantiles):

$$\hat{\pi}_p = x_{(k)}, \text{ where } k = 1 + (n - 1)p$$

Special cases:

$$\text{Sample median} = \hat{\pi}_{0.5} = x_{(5.5)} = \frac{1.26 + 1.53}{2} = 1.395$$

$$\text{Sample 1st quartile} = \hat{\pi}_{0.25} = x_{(3.25)} = 0.9625$$

$$\text{Sample 3rd quartile} = \hat{\pi}_{0.75} = x_{(7.75)} = 3.6480$$

Also:

$$\text{Interquartile range} = \hat{\pi}_{0.75} - \hat{\pi}_{0.25} = 2.685$$

$\hat{\pi}_{0.25}$  and  $\hat{\pi}_{0.75}$  contain about 50% of the sample between them

## Some descriptive statistics in R

---

```
> x <- round(VEGFC, digit = 2)

> x
[1] 0.97 0.52 0.73 0.96 1.26 4.06 2.41 1.53 6.07 5.08

> sort(x)      # order statistics
[1] 0.52 0.73 0.96 0.97 1.26 1.53 2.41 4.06 5.08 6.07

> summary(x)  # sample mean & sample quantiles
   Min. 1st Qu. Median     Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
0.5200  0.9625  1.3950  2.3590  3.6475  6.0700
```

```
> var(x) # sample variance  
[1] 3.98761  
  
> sd(x) # sample standard deviation  
[1] 1.9969  
  
> IQR(x) # interquartile range  
[1] 2.685
```

## Frequency statistics

---

Can also define empirical versions of pdf, pmf, cdf

Will see in the next section...

# Outline

---

Subject information

Review of probability

Descriptive statistics

Basic data visualisations

# Box plot

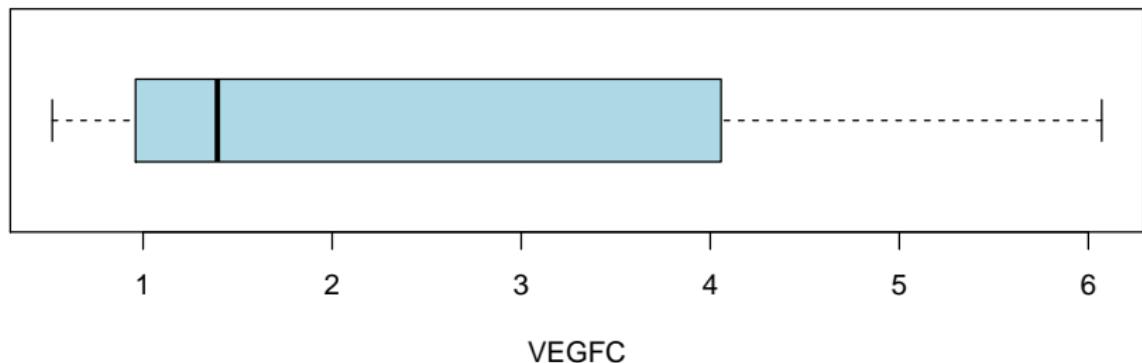
---

Graphical summary of data from a single variable

Main box:  $\hat{\pi}_{0.25}$ ,  $\hat{\pi}_{0.5}$ ,  $\hat{\pi}_{0.75}$

'Whiskers':  $x_{(1)}$ ,  $x_{(n)}$

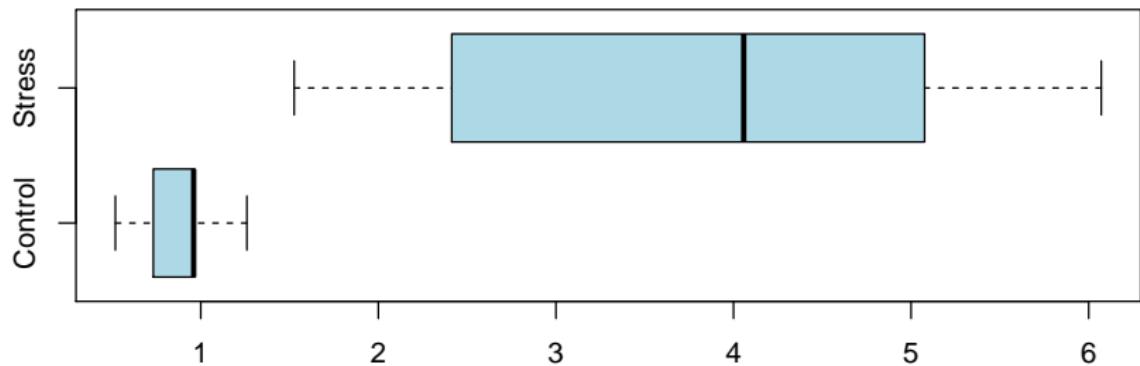
(but R does something more complicated, see tutorial problems)



Convenient way of comparing data from different groups

## Example: VEGFC (Stress vs Control)

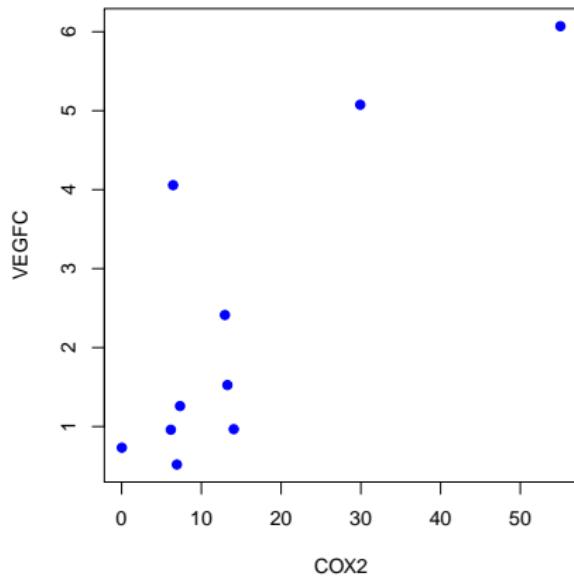
---



## Scatter plot

---

For comparing data from two variables (usually continuous)



## Empirical cdf

---

The **sample cdf**, or **empirical cdf**, is defined as

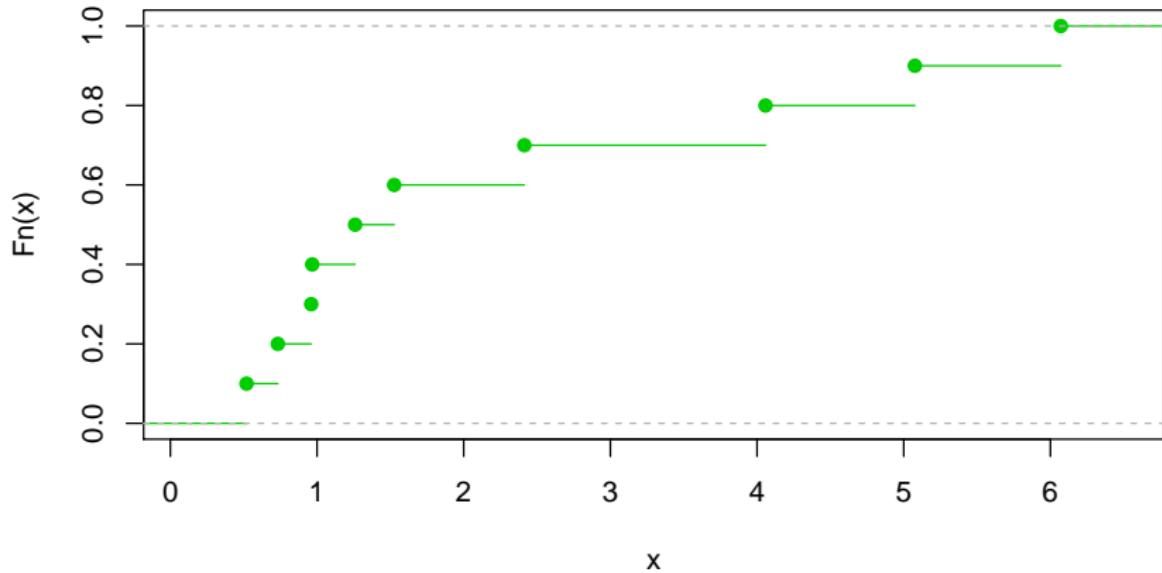
$$\hat{F}(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I(x_i \leq x)$$

where  $I(\cdot)$  is the indicator function ( $I(x_i \leq x)$  has value 1 if  $x_i \leq x$  and value 0 if  $x_i > x$ ).

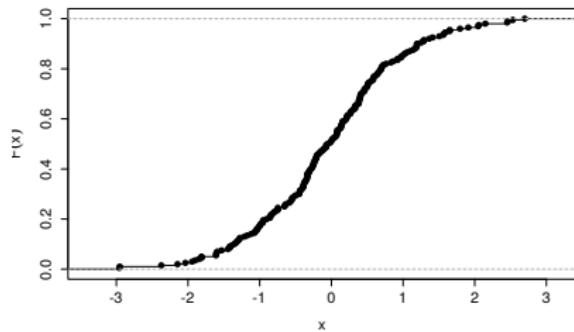
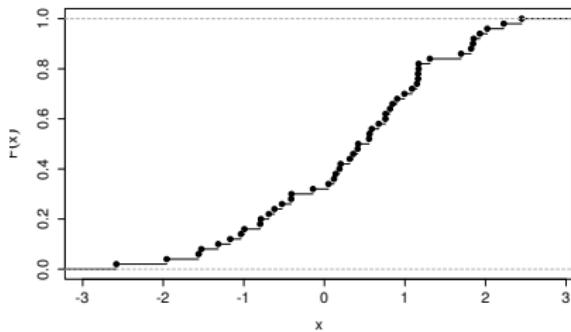
For example, for the previous data,

$$\hat{F}(2) = \frac{1}{10} \sum_{i=1}^{10} I(x_i \leq 2) = \frac{6}{10} = 0.6$$

**ecdf(VEGFC)**



It has the form of a discrete cdf. However, it will approximate the cdf of a continuous variable if the sample size is large. The following diagram shows cdfs based on  $n = 50$  and  $n = 200$  observations sampled from a standard normal distribution,  $N(0, 1)$ .

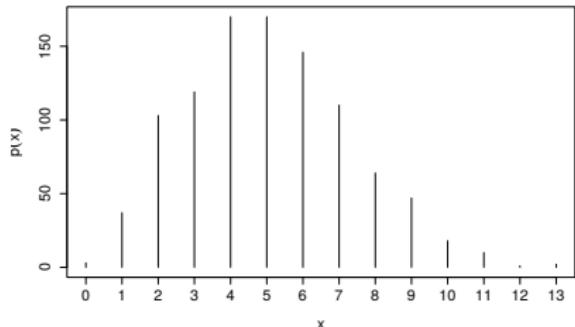
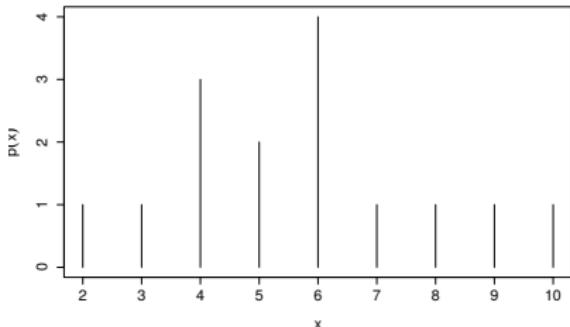


## Empirical pmf

If the underlying variable is discrete we use the pmf corresponding to the sample cdf  $\hat{F}$

$$\hat{p}(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I(x_i = x)$$

For example, the following shows  $\hat{p}(x)$  of size  $n = 15$  from  $Pn(5)$  (left) and the true pmf  $p(x)$  of  $Pn(5)$  (right)



## Histograms and smoothed pdfs

---

If the underlying variable is continuous we would prefer to obtain an approximation of the pdf. There are several approaches that can be used:

1. **Histogram**,  $\hat{f}_h$  ( $h$  is the bin length). First divide the entire range of values into a series of small intervals (bins) and then count how many values fall into each interval. For interval  $[a, b)$ , where  $b - a = h$ , draw a rectangle with height:

$$\hat{f}_h(x) = \frac{1}{hn} \sum_{i=1}^n I(a \leq x_i < b)$$

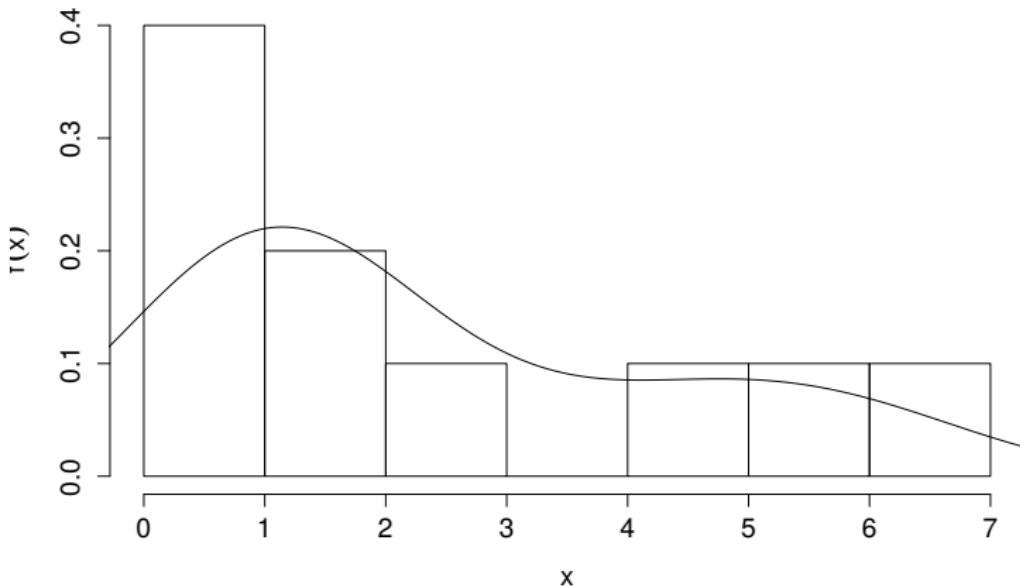
2. **Smoothed pdf**,  $\hat{f}_h$  ( $h$  is the ‘bandwidth parameter’),

$$\hat{f}_h(x) = \frac{1}{hn} \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right),$$

where  $K(\cdot)$  is the **kernel** (a non-negative function that integrates to 1 and with mean zero) and  $h$  is a parameter that controls the level of smoothing.

## Example: VEGFC

---



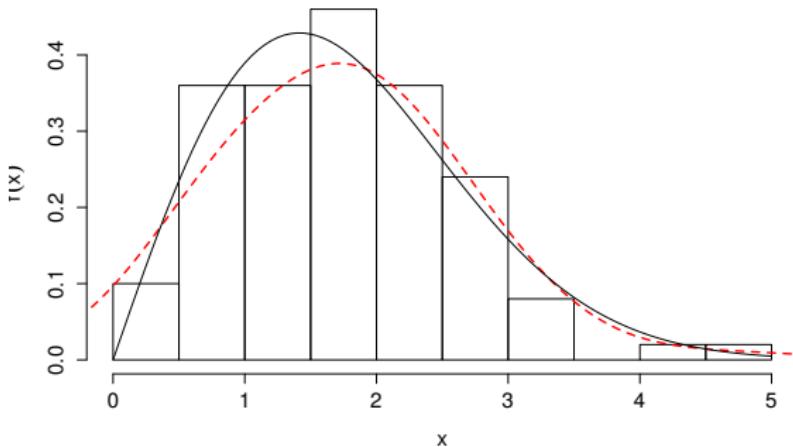
## Simulated data

---

Consider  $n = 100$  observations from the Weibull distribution with pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}xe^{-(x/2)^2}, x > 0$$

True density (solid black curve), smoothed pdf (red dashed curve)



## Quantile-quantile (QQ) plots

---

- For comparing the similarity of two probability distributions
- We plot their quantiles against each other (as a scatter plot)
- Typically, we compare data against a theoretical distribution
- The points in the plot are  $(\hat{\pi}_p, \pi_p)$
- **Note:** some people plot these the other way around:  $(\pi_p, \hat{\pi}_p)$

- One axis shows the data, written here as sample quantiles:

$$\hat{\pi}_p = x_{(k)}, \quad \text{where } p = \frac{k}{n+1} \quad (\text{'Type 6' quantiles})$$

for  $k = 1, \dots, n$

- Other axis shows corresponding quantiles for a theoretical distribution:

$$\pi_p = F^{-1}(p) = F^{-1}\left(\frac{k}{n+1}\right)$$

- The points in the plot therefore are,

$$\left\{ x_{(k)}, F^{-1}\left(\frac{k}{n+1}\right) \right\}.$$

## Example: VEGFC

---

Is the sample from an exponential distribution with cdf  
 $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x}$ ?

Sample quantiles (data):

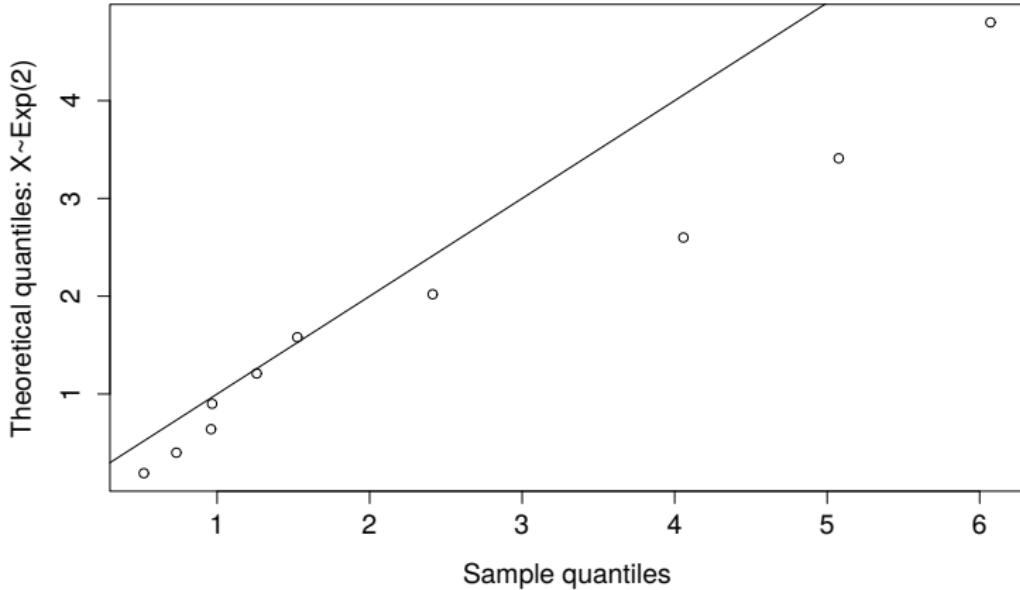
$$x_{(1)} = 0.52, x_{(2)} = 0.73, \dots, x_{(10)} = 6.07$$

Theoretical quantiles:

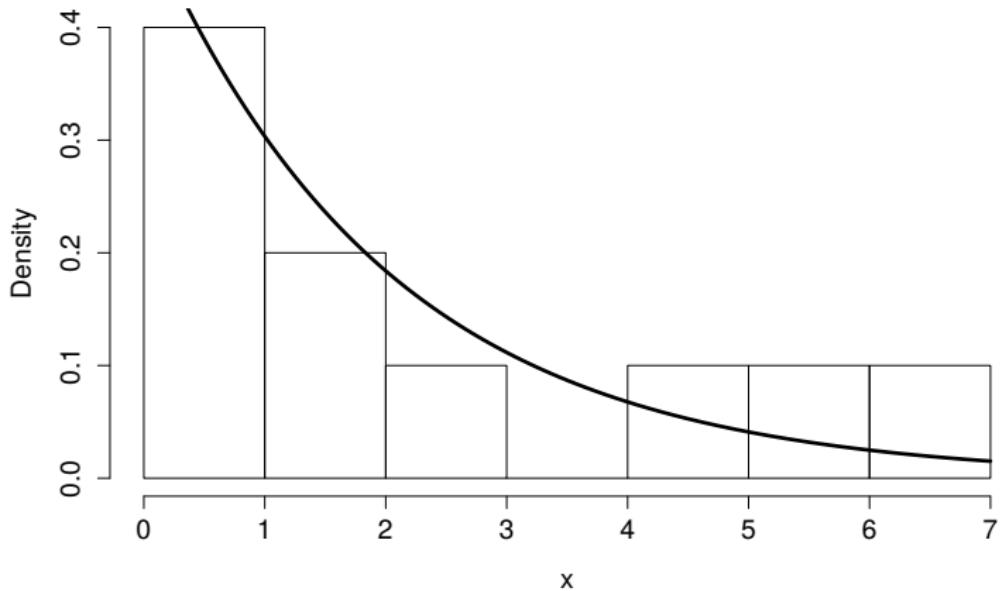
$$F^{-1}(p) = -\ln(1 - p)/\lambda \quad (\text{e.g. set } \lambda = 0.5)$$

$$1/(10 + 1) = 0.09, 2/(10 + 1) = 0.18, \dots, 10/(10 + 1) = 0.91$$

$$F^{-1}(0.09) = 0.19, F^{-1}(0.18) = 0.40, \dots, F^{-1}(0.91) = 4.80$$



The right tail of the sample does not quite match the theoretical model (tail of the sample distribution is heavier).



The right tail of the sample does not quite match the theoretical model (tail of the sample distribution is heavier).

## Normal QQ plots

---

If  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then  $X = \mu + \sigma Z$ , where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ . Therefore, if the normal model is correct

$$x_{(k)} \approx \mu + \sigma \Phi^{-1} \left( \frac{k}{n+1} \right)$$

where  $\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$  is the standard normal cdf.

So, if we plot the points

$$\left( x_{(k)}, \Phi^{-1} \left( \frac{k}{n+1} \right) \right), \quad k = 1, \dots, n$$

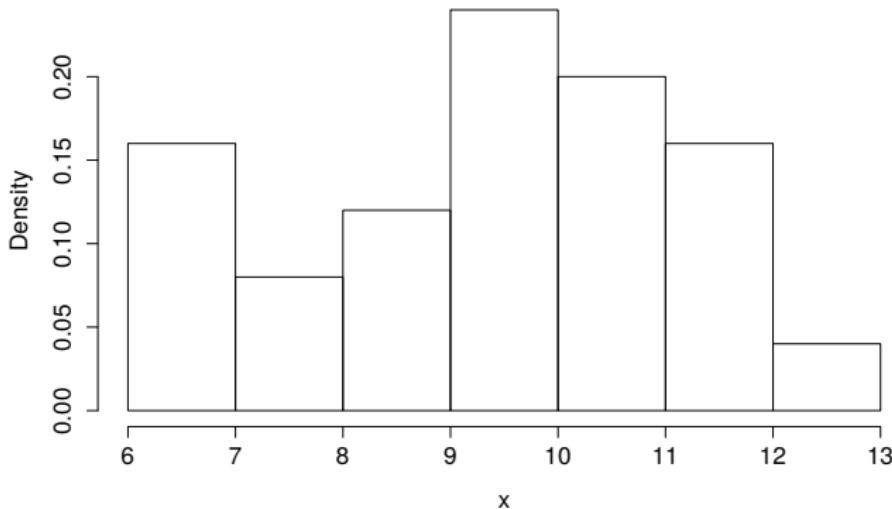
the result should be a straight line with intercept  $\mu$  and slope  $\sigma$ .  
The values  $\Phi^{-1}(k/(n+1))$  are called **normal scores**.

## Example: simulated data

---

Consider 25 observations from  $X \sim N(10, 2)$ .

The histogram is not very helpful:



But the QQ plot is much clearer:

