Statistics Roadmap for Professional Data Analysts



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1. Foundations of Statistics

• Descriptive Statistics

- Measures of Central Tendency: Mean, Median, Mode
- Measures of Dispersion: Variance, Standard Deviation, Range, Interquartile Range (IQR)
- Data Distributions: Normal, Skewed, Uniform, etc.
- Percentiles and Quartiles
- Data Visualization: Histograms, Box Plots, Scatter Plots, Bar Charts

• Probability Basics

- Basic Probability Concepts: Sample Space, Events, Conditional Probability
- Bayes' Theorem
- Probability Distributions: Binomial, Poisson, Normal, Exponential
- Expected Value and Variance

2. Inferential Statistics

• Sampling Methods

- Random Sampling, Stratified Sampling, Cluster Sampling
- Sampling Distributions

• Hypothesis Testing

- Null and Alternative Hypotheses
- Type I and Type II Errors
- p-values and Significance Levels (α)
- One-tailed and Two-tailed Tests

• Confidence Intervals

- Interpretation and Calculation
- Z-tests and T-tests

• ANOVA (Analysis of Variance)

- One-way and Two-way ANOVA
- F-tests

• Chi-Square Tests

- Goodness-of-Fit Test
- Test of Independence

3. Regression Analysis

• Linear Regression

- Simple Linear Regression
- Multiple Linear Regression

- Assumptions of Linear Regression
- R-squared and Adjusted R-squared
- Residual Analysis

• Logistic Regression

- Binary and Multinomial Logistic Regression
- Odds Ratio and Logit Function

• Model Evaluation

- Mean Squared Error (MSE), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)
- Mean Absolute Error (MAE)
- ROC Curve and AUC

4. Advanced Statistical Techniques

• Time Series Analysis

- Trend, Seasonality, Cyclical Patterns
- Moving Averages, Exponential Smoothing
- ARIMA Models

• Multivariate Analysis

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Factor Analysis
- Cluster Analysis (K-means, Hierarchical Clustering)

• Experimental Design

- A/B Testing
- Control vs. Treatment Groups
- Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs)

5. Statistical Software and Tools

• Programming Languages

- Python: Libraries like NumPy, Pandas, SciPy, StatsModels, Scikit-learn
- R: Libraries like dplyr, ggplot2, caret

• Data Visualization Tools

- Tableau, Power BI, Matplotlib, Seaborn

• Statistical Software

- SPSS, SAS, STATA (optional, depending on industry)

6. Practical Applications

• Real-world Data Analysis

- Cleaning and Preprocessing Data
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)
- Feature Engineering
- Interpreting Results and Communicating Insights

• Case Studies

- Analyzing Business Data
- Customer Segmentation
- Predictive Modeling

7. Optional but Useful Topics

• Bayesian Statistics

- Bayesian Inference
- Prior and Posterior Distributions

• Non-parametric Tests

- Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test, Mann-Whitney U Test, Kruskal-Wallis Test

• Machine Learning Basics

- Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning
- Overfitting and Underfitting
- Cross-validation

Recommended Resources

• Books:

- $-\ Naked\ Statistics$ by Charles Wheelan
- Practical Statistics for Data Scientists by Peter Bruce and Andrew Bruce
- Think Stats by Allen B. Downey
- Introduction to Statistical Learning by Gareth James et al.

• Online Courses:

- Statistics with Python Specialization (Coursera)
- Data Science: Statistics and Machine Learning (edX)
- Khan Academy Statistics and Probability

• Practice Platforms:

- Kaggle (for datasets and competitions)
- Datacamp (for hands-on practice)



"A good statistician is like a detective—uncovering the truth hidden in data!"
"May this journey of learning and discovery lead to success. Keep me in your prayers!"