

Minute Paper after Class 15 Feedback

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1 Sample

n = 55 of 55 students eventually responded. Thanks!

2 How is your Project A going at the moment?

Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
0	14	32	9	0

OK, I guess this is a reasonable place for people to be.

3 Most important thing you've learned recently in 432?

(edited and grouped by TEL but not in any real order this time)

- [Tips for Project A](#) from Class 15
- Basics of thinking about (and plotting) time-to-event (survival) data
 - Kaplan-Meier curves, and log rank tests
- Table 1 (and the practice you received in [Lab 5](#))
- Variable (Model) Selection and the LASSO
 - problems with stepwise methods
 - interpreting the two LASSO plots discussed in class
- K-fold Cross-Validation
- Power concerns when reviewing published peer-reviewed literature
 - retrodesign and its use in assessing Type S and Type M errors
- Regression on Count Outcomes
 - Poisson and Negative Binomial Models
 - Rootograms
- Spearman ρ^2 plots and working with non-linear terms
- Interpreting Effects as described in [Chapter 22 of the Notes](#)

4 What is your biggest concern now about your Project A?

There weren't a lot of really specific concerns listed. The main *general* concerns seem to be:

- Completing the work in a timely fashion.
- Building appropriate interpretations of my findings, so as to answer my research questions effectively.
- Writing clearly, and in complete sentences.
- Paying attention to details.
- Building a video.
- Coordinating with my project partner's availability.

All of those things are useful things to be thinking about. Some people are worried about their grade on the project, which, as far as I'm concerned, is not a useful thing to be thinking about.

The specific questions I felt like I could answer in this forum were:

- Can I continue the project A portfolio on to the same qmd I submitted for project plan? Or would you advice me to use the new qmd for the projects portfolio? I noticed there are two templates provided.
 - I would use the new template. It doesn't require much editing at all to your old work.
- Do we need to almost completely follow the template while doing project
 - I would suggest that you do, yes.
- How do I decide whether to use single or multiple imputation for missing values?
 - Well, for your linear regression, my recommendation is to use single imputation for [the first seven parts of section 8](#) until you get to the "Final Model" subsection, where I'd like to see you either continue with single imputation, or switch to multiple imputation.
 - I have a similar view for logistic regression, where my recommendation is to use single imputation for [the first five parts of section 9](#) until you get to the "Final Model" subsection, where I'd like to see you either continue with single imputation, or switch to multiple imputation.

5 Your Questions: My Answers

This week, I didn't ask this as a separate question, so there are fewer responses.

5.1 About Statistics / Data Science Issues

- Broad question, but do we cover anything that relates to large sets of information which may have more than single row associations (i.e. anything statistical that relates to DNA or amino acid sequences of data, where there's information relevant to the model prediction in spatially adjacent cases, rather than treating each case as a new, spatially isolated instance of $Y \sim A + B + C$)?
 - I'm not sure I understand your question well. I think the answer is therefore no. We have had a spatial analysis course at CWRU. I would be a better candidate to take it than to offer it.
- Would scale values from a psychometric instrument (e.g., GAD-7, PHQ-8) be suitable to Poisson regression given there shared properties of rightward skew in populations and positive integer values?
 - Sure.

5.2 About The 432 Course

- Although p-value use is highly discouraged in our labs and projects, its use and interpretation are somewhat commonplace in the course notes. is this deliberate or is it also hard for you to completely move away from using p-values for interpreting data?
 - The notion of “statistical significance” is what I highly discourage. p values are fine to use, but not especially important relative to .
 - It is my goal to revise the Notes for 431 and 432 pretty thoroughly this summer, but we’ll see if that happens. If I do it, I will change many things, but I certainly won’t be using the terms “statistically significant” or “statistically detectable” in that work. On the other hand, I don’t know if I will get to it or not.
- Are we going to learn about mixed effects models during 432 or is there another course that Dr Love (or another professor) teaches that covers this material?
 - I don’t know everything about what is covered in courses I don’t teach. You will learn a little about mixed effects models in this course, but not much.

5.3 About R/RStudio/Quarto/Coding

- A colleague and I were discussing our preference for R over SAS but I remember you mentioned that another class you teach incorporates SAS. Would you say you use one more than the one in your day-to-day work?
 - I think you misheard me. There are other courses *in my department* that use SAS, including for example our course in survival analysis. I haven’t used SAS regularly since 2001, and haven’t opened it since before the pandemic began.
- I got a couple of questions that I think were about using the `tableone` tool, and how to interpret its results, but I’m not sure I can answer those questions outside of more detailed context. I encourage you to try again in an email or Campuswire post.

5.4 Other Questions and Comments

Several people thanked me, the TAs or both for help, or wished us a nice break, or wished me better health. Thank you!

- I recall a discussion about website building when I took 431, which was a couple of years ago. Could you please point me to some resources that might help?
 - I encourage you to [look at Lab X](#).
- Do you have any plans for Spring Break?

- Nothing firm. I am planning to be away from my computer for all but one hour a day for a week. My son will be home from college (his Spring Break coincides with ours) so that will dictate some of my activities.
 - How do you feel about the MLB pitch clock?
 - I am happier with some of the other rule changes, but I'm hoping it works amazingly well, and we don't notice it after a short while. The players are competition monsters - they'll figure it out, I hope. I will probably like it more in the first seven innings than I will in the last couple.
 - Top 5/10 places to visit in the US, in your opinion?
 - Oh, there's so much I haven't seen, like the Grand Canyon, or Hawaii or Alaska, that would be obvious things to list, but I guess I could come up with a list of a few favorite places I have visited and would like to revisit.
1. New York City is still very high on our list, especially the theater district and Citi Field, but there are an amazing number of fantastic places in those five boroughs, and I'll never see all of the ones I want to before I die. The City is at its best between Thanksgiving and Christmas for me, but the lure of Mets games takes me there in the summers.
 2. The US coasts feature two magnificent oceans and I have enjoyed my time looking at each of them from any one of a number of prime viewing locations. I grew up on Long Island, so I have particular favorites there, including the Sunken Forest on Fire Island, and I've spent some lovely time exploring our national parks in California, too, especially near San Francisco and to some extent in southern California.
 3. Everyone should go to Vegas at least once. Never have I been to a place where I was both so happy to arrive and so happy to leave after a few days.
 4. One of the best afternoons I ever spent was at the Nixon Library in California, even though I find the man himself appalling. Especially in contrast with the Johnson Library in Austin and Clinton Library in Little Rock, all of which are great fun.
 5. Biltmore House in Asheville, North Carolina, was great fun 37 years ago when last I went. I'd like to go back.
 6. For me, the two best baseball stadiums in Major League Baseball to watch a game are in San Francisco and Pittsburgh. But a lot of the minor league parks are pretty, cheaper and more fun. I should make it a point to get out to some this year.
 7. Also, I play golf, or at least I used to, so I like a lot of places with appealing golf courses.