Introduction to the Course



N. Thompson Hobbs

January 22, 2019



What is this course about?

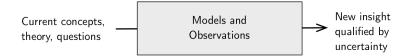
Gaining new insight about ecological processes using models and observations in the Bayesian framework.

 $[z_i|\boldsymbol{\theta}_p]$ A model of a process

 $[y_i|z_i,m{ heta}_d]$ A model of the data that arise from the process

 $[\boldsymbol{\theta}_p][\boldsymbol{\theta}_d]$ Models of parameters

What is this course about?



KEY TO STATISTICAL METHODS

	Design or Purpose	Measurement Variables	Ranked Variables	Attributes
1 variable 1 sample	Examination of a single sample	Procedure for grousing a frequency distribution, Box 2.1; seem and leaf display, Section 2.5; testing for outliers, Section 13.4 Computing median of frequency distribution, Box 4.1 Computing arthritise iman: unondered sample, Box 4.2; frequency distribution, Box 4.3 unondered sample, Box 4.2; frequency distribution, Box 4.3 Setting confidence limits: mean, Box 7.2; variance, Box 7.3 Computing, gan day, Box 6.2		Confidence limits for a percentage, Section 17.1 Rum test for randomness in dichoromized data, Box 18.3
	Comparison of a single sample with an expected frequency distribution	Normal expected frequencies, Box 6.1 Goodness of fit tests parameters from an extrinsic hypothesis, Box 17.1; from an intrinsic hypothesis, Box 17.2 Kolmogorov-Smitrov test of goodness of fit, Box 17.3 Graphic "Tests" for normality: large sample sizes, Box 6.3; mall sample sizes transkit test), Box 6.4 Test of sample statistic against expected value, Box 7.4		Binomial expected frequencies, Box 5.1 Poisson expected frequencies, Box 5.2 Goodness of fit tests: parameters from an extrinsic hypothesis, Box 17.1; from an intrinsic hypothesis, Box 17.2
variable ≥2 samples	Single classification	Single classification annies, uncessal single sizes, Box 9.4 Planned comparison of means in anova, Box 9.8; Planned comparison of means in anova, Box 9.8; Sox 9.4; Planned comparison of means in anova, Box 9.8; Sox 9.9; T., GTZ, and Tukey-Karmer, unquest sample sizes, Box 9.9; T., GTZ, and Tukey-Karmer, unquest sample sizes, Box 9.9; Sox 9.1;	Kruskal-Wallis test, Box 13.5 Unplanned comparison of means by a norquammetric STP, Box 17.5	Great for homogeneity of percentages, Boxes 17-3 and 17-8. Comparison of several samples with an expected frequency distribution, Box 17-4, unplanned analyses of replicated tests of goodness of fit, Box 17-5.
	Nested classification	Two-level nested anova: equal sample sizes, Box 10.1; unequal sample sizes, Box 10.4 Three-level nested anova: equal sample sizes, Box 10.3; unequal sample sizes, Box 10.5		
	Two-way or multi-way classification	Two way amove with replication, Box 11.1; without replication, Box 11.2; unequal but proportional subclass size, Box 11.4; with a single missing observation, Box 11.5; Three way anowa, Box 12.1 More than three way classification. Section 12.3 and Box 12.2 Test for nonadiativity in a two way amova, Box 13.4	Friedman's method for randomized blocks. Box 13.9	Three-way log-linear model, Box 17.9 Randomized blocks for frequency data (repeated testing of the same individuals), Box 17.11



Fleishman, E., et al., 2011. Top 40 Priorities for Science to Inform US Conservation and Management Policy. Bioscience 61:290-300.

Problems poorly suited to traditional approaches

- ▶ Multiple sources of data
- Multiple sources of uncertainty
- Inference across scales
- Unobservable quantities
- Missing data
- Derived quantities
- Forecasting

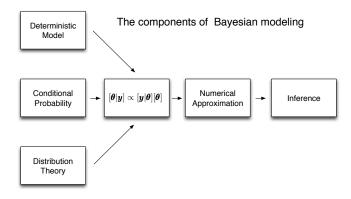
Recent ESS 575 alumni

Student	Position
Ann Raiho	Ph.D., Notre Dame
Megan Vahsen	Ph.D., Notre Dame
Nathan Galloway	Biologist, National Park Service
Nell Campbell	Research Scientist, Univ. New
	Hampshire
Katie Renwick	Post-doc, Univ. Montana
Alison Ketz	Post-doc, USGS, University of
	Wisconsin
Zhongqi Miao	Ph.D., Berkeley
Greg Wann	Post-doc, USGS
Vincent Landau	Analyst, Conservation Science
	Partners

Goals

- Provide principles based understanding
- ▶ Enhance intellectual satisfaction
- Foster collaboration
- Build a foundation for self-teaching

Learning outcomes



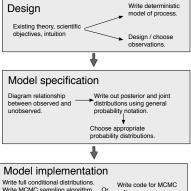
Learning outcomes

- 1. Explain basic principles of Bayesian inference.
- 2. Diagram and write out mathematically correct posterior and joint distributions for Bayesian models.
- 3. Explain basics of the Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm and be able to write an MCMC sampler.
- 4. Use software for implementing MCMC.
- 5. Develop and implement hierarchical models.
- 6. Evaluate model fit.
- 7. Appreciate possibilities for model selection.
- 8. Understand consequences of spatial and temporal autocorrelation.
- 9. Understand papers and proposals using Bayesian methods.



Goals

Learning outcomes



Write MCMC sampling algorithm.

software.

Implement MCMC on simulated data.

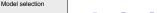
Implement MCMC on real data.



Model evaluation

Posterior predictive checks

Probabilistic inference from output of MCMC



Course topics

Principles

- · Laws of probability
- Distribution theory
- Moment matching
- Bayes' theorem
- Conjugacy

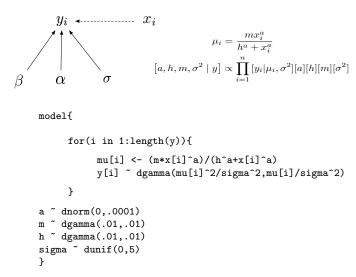
Implementation and inference

- MCMC
- JAGS
- Inference from single and multiple models
- Model checking

Hierarchical models

- Introduction
- Multi-level regression
- Mixture and occupancy
- State-space
- Spatial

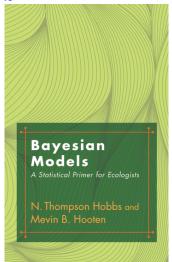
Cross cutting theme



Teaching philosophy

- Principles are primary
- Everyone learns, everyone teaches
- Teaching trumps evaluation.
- ▶ The best learning comes from solving problems.
- Whenever possible, I teach in the first person voice.

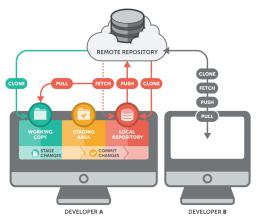
Text



Errata: http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/~hooten/papers/pdf/Hobbs_Hooten_Bayesian_Models_2015_errata.pdf

Overview Motivation Goals **Details**

Accessing course materials on GitHub





Accessing course materials on GitHub

Show possible file structure for course materials on board.

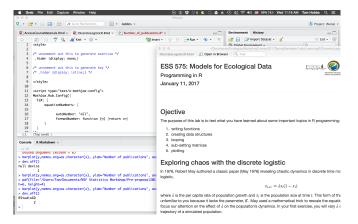
Housekeeping

- ▶ Lab in Natural Resources 254
 - You will need a laptop
 - Bring long power cords.
- ► Lecture in NESB A302 starting promptly at 9:30

Housekeeping

- ▶ R primer for first laboratory available on GitHub
- ► Lecture notes: download morning of class (after 8:30)
- Some board work, so be prepared to take notes.

R markdown



Evaluation

- ► Eleven laboratory exercises worth 50 100 points each. (80% of grade)
- ► A capstone problem done individually (20% of grade)
- ▶ You are graded relative to material, not relative to each other.
- Relax. You will get an A if you do the assignments carefully and thoughtfully.
- See syllabus for details.

Individual projects

- Purpose
- Process
- ► Product

Getting help

- ► From me: Tuesday-Thursday 11:00 12:00 or by appointment, NESB B227 or by email (tom.hobbs@colostate.edu). Please put ESS 575 in subject line.
- ► From TA, Brian Avila: Fridaya 12:30-2:30 or by appointment, Wagar 203, mlvahsen@gmail.com.

Chores

- ► Fill out Google doc spreadsheet if you have not already done so.
- ► Get account on GitHub and pull repository ESS_575_2019 to your local machine. See instructions in Accessing course material.html.
- Install R and R studio before lab tomorrow. See instructions in R primer on class repository.
- ▶ Install the R package ESS575 containing course data library. See instructions in Accessing course material.html.
- Print R primer for first laboratory.
- Read materials in Admin folder of ESS_575_2019.

First assignment

- ► Read the syllabus.
- ▶ Prepare ≤ 2 minute presentation about yourself: background, what are you studying, who is your major professor, why you are taking this class.
- Prepare a 1-2 paragraph description of an important non-linear, static, deterministic model in your field of ecology.
 See FirstAssignment.pdf in Admin folder of ESS_575_2019. Due Friday.
- ▶ Dust off your calculus book. Review the definite integral and how it is derived.

Discussion topic (if time)

What do you think of when someone is described as an "ecological modeler?" Mevin and I say in our book that all ecological researchers are modelers. Why do you suppose we say that? Describe your ideas about the relationships among observations, mathematical models, and statistical models in ecology.

We are all ecological modelers

Deterministic model Probability model

Observations (data)

Idea!

What is the probability that I would observe the data if my model is a faithful representation of the processes that gave rise to the data?