Statistical Analysis of Repeated Measurements Data

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April 18 – 22, 2016

Contents

What is this Course About

Grouped data arise in wide range of disciplines

- Typical examples of grouped data
  - ▷ *repeated measurements:* measuring the same outcome multiple times on the same sample unit (e.g., biomarkers in patients)
  - ▷ *multilevel data:* outcomes measured on sample units that are organized in different levels (e.g., patients in medical centers or students in schools)

What is this Course About (cont'd)

- Statistical analysis of grouped data
  - ▷ Features of grouped data
  - ▷ describe their distribution
  - ▷ inference using suitable regression models

Learning Objectives

- Goals: After this course participants will be able to
  - ▷ identify settings in which family of repeated measurements model is required,
  - ▷ construct and fit an appropriate model to the data at hand, and
  - ▷ correctly interpret the obtained results

- Even though the course will be primarily explanatory
  - ▷ emphasis is given on sufficient detail in order for participants to obtain a clear view on the different modeling approaches, and how they should be used in practice

Agenda

- **Chapter 1:** Motivating Data Sets
  - ▷ Data sets that we will use throughout the course
  - ▷ General repeated measurements settings
  - ▷ Research questions

- **Chapter 2:** Marginal Models for Continuous Data
  - ▷ Features of repeated measurements data
  - ▷ Naive approaches
  - ▷ Review linear regression
  - ▷ Marginal models

Agenda (cont'd)

- **Chapter 3:** The Linear Mixed Effects Model
  - ▷ Intuition behind mixed models
  - ▷ nested and cross random effects

- **Chapter 4:** Marginal Models for Discrete Data
  - ▷ Review generalized linear models
  - ▷ Generalized estimating equations

Agenda (cont'd)

- **Chapter 5:** Mixed Models for Discrete Data
  - ▷ Generalized linear mixed effects models
  - ▷ approximations of the integrand & integral
  - ▷ interpretation of parameters

- **Chapter 6:** Statistical Analysis with Incomplete Grouped Data
  - ▷ Problems with incomplete data
  - ▷ Missing data mechanisms
  - ▷ Valid inferential approaches

Structure of the Course & Material

- Lectures & software practicals using R

- Material:
  - ▷ Course Notes
  - ▷ R code in soft format

- Within the course notes there are several examples of R and SPSS syntax – these are denoted by the symbols '`R>` ' and '`SPSS>` ', respectively

Software Requirements

- The up-to-date version of R and Rstudio; downloadable from
  - ▷ http://cran.r-project.org/
  - ▷ http://www.rstudio.com/

- Additional required packages
  - ▷ **lme4**, **MCMCglmm**, **geepack**,
  - ▷ **MASS**, **shiny**, **corrplot**

Software Requirements

- Up-to-date versions of these packages and their dependencies can be installed using the command

```
install.packages(c("shiny", "nlme", "lattice", "lme4",
                   "MCMCglmm", "geepack", "MASS", "corrplot"),
                   dependencies = TRUE)
```

- Up-to-date version of a modern web browser, e.g.,
  - ▷ Mozilla Firefox (https://www.mozilla.org/firefox/)
  - ▷ Google Chrome (http://www.google.com/chrome/)

Software Requirements

- A `shiny` web app that replicates all analyses in the course including also some additional illustrations

- The app is available on GitHub and can be invoked using the following two-step procedure (assuming internet connection is available)

  1. Start R
  2. Run the command

     ```
     shiny::runGitHub("Repeated_Measurements", "drizopoulos")
     ```

  this will open a new web browser window (or tab) with the app

- Note: in order the app to be functional you should **not** close R

References

- Some texts in longitudinal data analysis
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  - ▷ Galecki, A. and Burzykowski, T. (2013). *Linear Mixed-Effects Models Using R*. New York: Springer-Verlag.
  - ▷ Molenberghs, G. and Verbeke, G. (2005). *Models for Discrete Longitudinal Data*. New York: Springer-Verlag.
  - ▷ Fitzmaurice, G., Laird, N., and Ware, J. (2011). *Applied Longitudinal Analysis*, 2nd Ed. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.
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  - ▷ Lindsey, J. (1993). *Models for Repeated Measurements*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
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  - ▷ Verbeke, G. and Molenberghs, G. (2000). *Linear Mixed Models for Longitudinal Data*. New York: Springer-Verlag.