

STAT 231

# Roadmap

- Introduction to Statistical Inference:
  - Some definitions
  - Types of inference problems
  - STATISTICAL MODEL
  - Examples
  - ~~Est~~ Estimation using the method of maximum Likelihood

## DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

describe the  
main properties  
of the data,  
its shape, centre,  
variability, etc.

## STATISTICAL INFERENCE

analyzing the properties  
of  $\downarrow$  our population  
of interest using  
a sample

INDUCTIVE SCIENCE : small to the  
vs big / special to the general.

DEDUCTIVE SCIENCE : general to  
the specific: AXIOMS  $\rightarrow$  THEOREMS

# THREE MAJOR TYPES OF INFERENCE PROBLEMS

- ESTIMATION: We want to "guess" the attributes of a population from our collected sample.
- HYPOTHESIS TESTING
- PREDICTION PROBLEMS

Example : To Average income of  
all recent immigrants in  
the K-W area :  $\mu$

We use a sample  
of  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  and try to  
estimate  $\mu$ .

We are trying to estimate the unknown  
attributes of the population

- Proportion of US College Educated  
voters who plan to vote for  
Trump

# HYPOTHESIS TESTING PROBLEM

A hypothesis is a claim made about some attribute (unknown) of the population

Draw ~~to~~ a sample from the population and "test" whether the claim is "reasonable".

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Example : (i) Paul the Octopus.

Test whether Paul is Psychic.

(ii) Test whether Canadians are better in Jeopardy than Americans

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## PREDICTION PROBLEMS

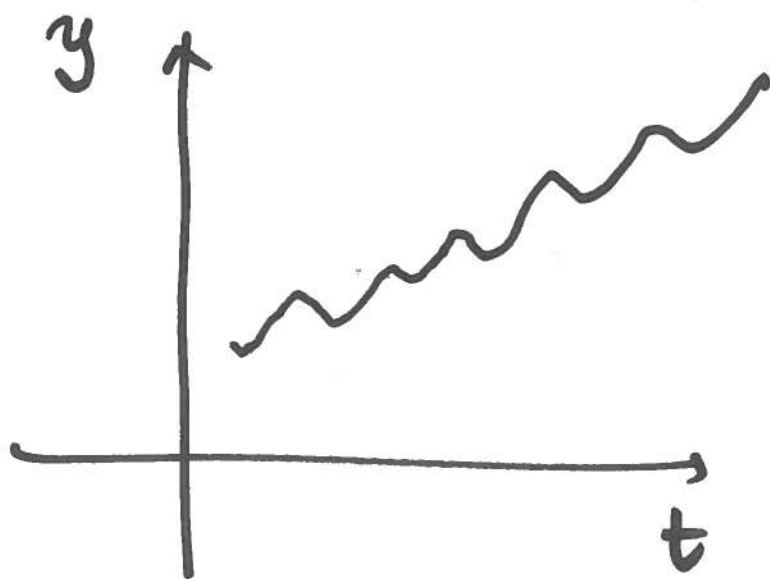
Q We want to predict a future value of an population attribute based on past observations

FORECASTING →

TIME SERIES ANALYSIS

$y_1, \dots, y_n =$  Stock prices.  
in year  $t$

$$\hat{y}_{n+1} = ?$$



Time series { Trend  
Seasonality }



# STATISTICAL MODELLING

Definition: A statistical model is the identification of the distribution from which your data set, and the unknown attribute of interest is a parameter of the distribution.

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$\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \rightarrow$  NOTATIONS

$y \rightarrow$  Data point, a known #

$\tilde{y}$   $Y \rightarrow$  random variable

$\mu, \sigma, \rightarrow$  unknown constants.

Data points,  $y_i$ , can be thought of as outcomes of a random experiment from a r.v.  $Y_i$

Example Toss a coin with probability of Head =  $\pi$

$$y = \begin{matrix} 1 & \text{if} & H \\ 0 & \text{if} & T \end{matrix} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{matrix} 1 & \text{if} & H \\ 0 & \text{if} & T \end{matrix}} \right\}$$

STAT  
MODEL

$$Y = \left\{ \begin{matrix} 1 & \text{w.p.} & \pi \\ 0 & \text{w.p.} & 1 - \pi \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$\pi =$  Trudeau's approval rating  
 $n$   $y$

200 people

6. 120

# of successes

$$y = 120.$$

$y$ 's ~~are~~ are drawn from a

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(200, \pi)$$

## Income problem

To Interested in  $\rightarrow \mu =$  av. salary  
of an immigrant in K-W

$\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  independently  
unknown

$$Y_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$\mu, \sigma$  are not MODEL.

random variables but unknown  
constants

# Jeopardy problem

$$\{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$$

$y_i$  = # of shows the  $i^{\text{th}}$  contestant appeared in

$\{1, 2, 1, 3, 1\}$  } # of trials before the 1<sup>st</sup> failure.

$\pi$  = Prob that a Canadian will win Jeopardy

Test whether  $\pi > \frac{1}{3}$  or not

$$Y_i \sim \text{Geom}(\pi)$$