Frank Anscombe

Francis John "Frank" Anscombe (13 May 1918 – 17 October 2001) was an English statistician.

Born in Hove in England, Anscombe was educated at Trinity College at Cambridge University. After serving in the Second World War, he joined Rothamsted Experimental Station for two years before returning to Cambridge as a lecturer.

In experiments, Anscombe emphasized randomization in both the design and analysis phases. In the design phase, Anscombe argued that the experimenters should randomize the labels of blocks.[1][2] In the analysis phase, Anscombe argued that the randomization plan should guide the analysis of data; Anscombe's approach has influenced John Nelder and R. A. Bailey in particular.

He moved to Princeton University in 1956, and in the same year he was elected as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association.[3] He became the founding chairman of the statistics department at Yale University in 1963.[4][5]

According to David Cox, his best-known work may be his 1961 account of formal properties of residuals in linear regression.[5][6] His earlier suggestion for a variance-stabilizing transformation for Poisson data is often known as the Anscombe transform.[7]

He later became interested in statistical computing, and stressed that "a computer should make both calculations *and* graphs", and illustrated the importance of graphing data with four data sets now known as Anscombe's quartet.[8] He later published a textbook on statistical computing in APL.[9]

In economics and decision theory he is best known for a 1963 paper with Robert Aumann which provides the standard basis for the theory of subjective probability.[10]

He was brother-in-law to another well-known statistician, John Tukey of Princeton University; their wives were sisters.[5]

Francis Anscombe

Born	13 May 1918 Hove, East Sussex
Died	17 October 2001 (aged 83)
Citizenship	United Kingdom
Alma mater	Trinity College, Cambridge
Known for	Analysis of residuals Anscombe's quartet Anscombe transform
Scientific career	
Fields	Statistician
Institutions	University of Cambridge Rothamsted Experimental Station Princeton University Yale University

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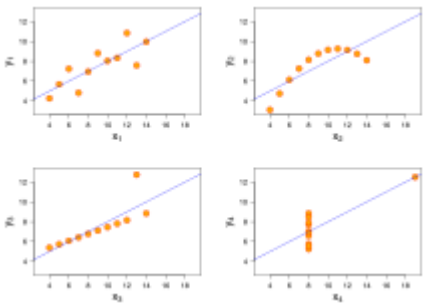

Anscombe illustrated the importance of graphing data with these four data sets.

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External links

- Frank Anscombe (https://www.genealogy.math.ndsu.nodak.edu/id.php?id=62936) at the Mathematics Genealogy Project