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1 Course: Statistical_Inference
2 Lesson: Introduction
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5 - Class: text
6 Output: "Introduction to Statistical_Inference. (Slides for this and other Data
Science courses may be found at github
https://github.com/DataScienceSpecialization/courses. If you care to use them, they
must be downloaded as a zip file and viewed locally. This lesson corresponds to
Statistical_Inference/Introduction.)"
7
8 - Class: text
9 Output: In this lesson, we'll briefly introduce basics of statistical inference, the
process of drawing conclusions "about a population using noisy statistical data where
uncertainty must be accounted for". In other words, statistical inference lets
scientists formulate conclusions from data and quantify the uncertainty arising from
using incomplete data.
10
11 - Class: mult_question
12 Output: Which of the following is NOT an example of statistical inference?
13 AnswerChoices: Polling before an election to predict its outcome; Constructing a
medical image from fMRI data; Testing the efficacy of a new drug; Recording the
results of a statistics exam
14 CorrectAnswer: Recording the results of a statistics exam
15 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Recording the results of a statistics exam')
16 Hint: Which of the choices involves concrete data that doesn't require any inference
or generalization?
17
18 - Class: text
19 Output: So statistical inference involves formulating conclusions using data AND
quantifying the uncertainty associated with those conclusions. The uncertainty could
arise from incomplete or bad data.
20
21 - Class: mult_question
22 Output: Which of the following would NOT be a source of bad data?
23 AnswerChoices: Small sample size; Selection bias; A randomly selected sample of
population; A poorly designed study
24 CorrectAnswer: A randomly selected sample of population
25 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='A randomly selected sample of population')
26 Hint: Which of the choices would allow one to draw reasonable inferences?
27
28 - Class: mult_question
29 Output: So with statistical inference we use data to draw general conclusions about a
population. Which of the following would a scientist using statistical inference
techniques consider a problem?
30 AnswerChoices: Our data sample is representative of the population; Our study has no
bias and is well-designed; Contaminated data
31 CorrectAnswer: Contaminated data
32 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Contaminated data')
33 Hint: Which of the choices is obviously bad?
34
35 - Class: mult_question
36 Output: Which of the following is NOT an example of statistical inference in action?
37 AnswerChoices: Estimating the proportion of people who will vote for a candidate;
Testing the effectiveness of a medical treatment; Determining a causative mechanism
underlying a disease; Counting sheep
38 CorrectAnswer: Counting sheep
39 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Counting sheep')
40 Hint: Which of the choices is exact?
41
42 - Class: text
43 Output: We want to emphasize a couple of important points here. First, a statistic
(singular) is a number computed from a sample of data. We use statistics to infer
information about a population. Second, a random variable is an outcome from an
experiment. Deterministic processes, such as computing means or variances, applied to
random variables, produce additional random variables which have their own
distributions. It's important to keep straight which distributions you're talking
about.
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45 - Class: text
46 Output: Finally, there are two broad flavors of inference. The first is frequency,
which uses "long run proportion of times an event occurs in independent, identically
distributed repetitions." The second is Bayesian in which the probability estimate
for a hypothesis is updated as additional evidence is acquired. Both flavors require
an understanding of probability so that's what the next lessons will cover.
47
48 - Class: text
49 Output: Congrats! You've concluded this brief introduction to statistical inference.
50
51 - Class: mult_question
52 Output: "Would you like to receive credit for completing this course on
53 Coursera.org?"
54 CorrectAnswer: NULL
55 AnswerChoices: Yes;No
56 AnswerTests: coursera_on_demand()
57 Hint: ""
58
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