

# STA 371G Outline

## Spring 2014

**Professor:** Mingyuan Zhou

Office: CBA 6.462

Phone: 512-232-6763

Email: mingyuan.zhou@mcombs.utexas.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday Thursday 3:30-4:30 PM. You are welcome to come by my office at other times, but to make sure that I will be there then, you may first call my office, send me an email, or talk to me before or after class to make an appointment.

### Tuesday, January 14

#### Topics:

- Introduction
- Probability
- Random variables
- Probability distributions
- Mean, variance and standard deviation of a random variable

### Thursday, January 16

#### Topics:

- Add a constant to a random variable
- Multiply a random variable by a constant
- Conditional, joint and marginal probabilities
- Independent random variables, sum of independent random variables
- Continuous random variables
- Probability density function: area under the curve represents probability
- Standard normal distribution  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$
- Standard normal calculations in Excel: NORMSDIST, or in R: pnorm (type “?pnorm” in R for help).

**Reading Assignments:**

If you are not familiar with the topics discussed in class, you are recommended to read:

pp. 156-168, 189-195, of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition

or

pp. 196-206, 225-231 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

To learn more about these topics, you may further read:

Chapters 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, and 2.5 of OpenIntro Statistics, 2nd edition

**Tuesday, January 21**

- Normal distribution  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- Understand the meaning of the standard deviation  $\sigma$  in a normal distribution:  $P(\mu - \sigma < X < \mu + \sigma) = ?$  and  $P(\mu - 2\sigma < X < \mu + 2\sigma) = ?$
- Normal calculations in Excel:  
NORMSDIST, NORMDIST  
NORMSINV, NORMINV  
or in R:  
pnorm, qnorm (type “?pnorm” and “?qnorm” in R for help).
- Plot a normal distribution in Excel and R
- Example: Testing at ZTel, we will make an Excel spreadsheet for calculations

**Reading Assignments:**

To get familiar with the normal distribution, you are recommended to read:

pp. 211-215, 217-225 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition

or

pp. 247-250, 253-260 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

You may further read:

Chapters 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.4 and 3.1.5 of OpenIntro Statistics, 2nd edition

**Thursday, January 23**

- Case study, Texas BBA Salary Statistics
- Conditional, joint and marginal probabilities
- Expectation of a random variable
- If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then  $P(X < x) = P\left(\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} < \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right) = P(Z < \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma})$ .
- Standardizing a normal random variable  $Z = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$   
Interpretation: the value of  $Z$  is the number of standard deviations that  $X$  deviates towards the left (if  $Z < 0$ ) or the right (if  $Z > 0$ ) of the mean.

## Tuesday, January 28

Class cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

## Thursday, January 30

- Common problems in Homework 1
- Case study: Texas BBA Statistics
- Binomial distribution  $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ . Examples: the number of “Heads” in 100 coin flips, the number of votes for Republican in 1000 voters
- The normal approximation to the binomial  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(np, np(1 - p))$
- Important concepts: Population and Sample
- Sampling distribution of a sample proportion
- Case study: A national poll of 803 adults by Anzalone Liszt Grove Research

### Reading Assignments:

Lecture notes 3 and 4 posted in Canvas/files

To learn more about the binomial distribution, its normal approximation, and the sampling distribution of a sample proportion, please read:

pp. 233-239, 403-404 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition

or

pp. 268-273, 438-439 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

For this topic, you may further read:

Chapters 3.4.1, 3.4.2 and 6.1 of OpenIntro Statistics, 2nd edition

## Tuesday, February 4

- Population mean, variance, standard deviation
- Sample mean, sample variance, standard error of the sample mean
- Sampling distribution of the sample mean
- Central limit theorem
- $t$  distribution (optional)
- Confidence interval
- Case study, Texas BBA Salary Statistics

**Reading Assignments:**

To learn more about estimation and sampling distribution, please read:

pp. 352-353, 366-371, 374, 388-395 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition  
or

pp. 378-379, 393-398, 400-401, 422-430 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

For this topic, you may further read:

Chapters 4.1, 4.2, 4.4 and 5.3 of OpenIntro Statistics, 2nd edition

**Thursday, February 6**

- Simple linear regression
- Linear prediction:  $Y = b_0 + b_1X$
- Least squares estimation of  $b_0$  and  $b_1$
- Examples: predict house price, baseball runs per game
- Using Excel and R to do the calculation
- Excel add-in: if you are using Mac, please install StatPlus:mac LE (available at <http://www.analystsoft.com/en/products/statplumacle/>); if you are using windows, please install Analysis ToolPak or Decision Tools Standard 6.1  
(available at <http://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/tech/computer-services/coe#DecisionTools>).

**Tuesday, February 11**

- Sample mean, variance, and standard deviation
- Sample covariance, sample correlation
- Linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$
- $b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1\bar{x}$ ,  $b_1 = r_{xy} \times \frac{s_y}{s_x}$
- $\text{mean}(e)=0$ ,  $\text{Corr}(e, X)=0$ ,  $\text{Corr}(e, \hat{Y})=0$ ,  $\text{Corr}(\hat{Y}, X)=1$
- SST, SSR, SSE
- Coefficient of determination:  $R^2 = \frac{SSR}{SST} = 1 - \frac{SSE}{SST}$
- $R^2 = r_{xy}^2$  measures the proportion of variation in  $Y$  explained by  $X$ .
- Statistical model for simple linear regression

**Reading Assignments:**

Chapters 7.1 and 7.2 of OpenIntro Statistics, 2nd edition  
pp. 531-551 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition  
or  
pp. 562-584 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

**Thursday, February 13**

- Statistical model for simple linear regression:  
 $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$   
 $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X, \sigma^2)$
- Conditional distribution of  $Y$  given  $X$
- 95% prediction interval of  $Y$  given  $X$ :  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X \pm 2\sigma$
- Conditional and marginal distributions of  $Y$
- Interpretation of  $\epsilon$  and  $\sigma$
- The error terms  $\epsilon_i$  are independently and identically distributed
- Least squares estimation and Gaussian maximum likelihood (optional)
- True line  $\beta_0 + \beta_1 X$  and least squares line  $b_0 + b_1 X$
- Degrees of freedom
- In SLR,  $\sigma^2$  is estimated with  $s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{n-2} = \frac{SSE}{n-2}$ .
- SLR regression standard error:  $s = \sqrt{SSE/(n-2)}$

**Reading Assignments:**

PDF “Simple Linear Regression” posted in Canvas/files

**Tuesday, February 18**

- Sampling distributions of regression parameters
- Confidence intervals of regression parameters
- Case study: Waite First Securities, Milk and Money

**Thursday, February 20**

- Topic summary for Midterm #1

- Discuss Practice Exam #1
- Common problems in homework assignments
- Hypothesis testing in SLR:  $t$ -statistic and  $p$ -value

## **Tuesday, February 25**

- Midterm Exam #1

## **Thursday, February 27**

- Forecasting with linear regression models
- Multiple regression
- Example: Auto MPG data

## **Tuesday, March 4**

- Multiple regression
- T-test and F-test
- Example: Supervisor performance data
- Understanding multiple regression
- Correlation and causation
- Example: Number of beer and weight & height
- Examples: Auto MPG, Baseball

## **Thursday, March 6**

- Multicollinearity
- Dummy variables and interactions
- Example: Gender Discrimination in Salary at Fifth National Bank
- Example: MidCity House Price
- Case study: Orion Bus Industries—Contract Bidding Strategy

## **Tuesday, March 18**

- Diagnostics
- Polynomial regression
- Variable interaction
- Log transformation
- Outliers

## **Thursday, March 20**

- Discuss Homework Assignment 6 (due next Thursday)
- Case Study, Oakland A's (A)
- Case Study, Oakland A's (B)
- Time series: fitting a trend

### **Reading Assignments:**

Chapters 10, 11.1-11.5, and 11.8-11.11 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition  
or

Chapters 11, 12.1-12.5, and 12.8-12.11 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

## **Tuesday, March 25**

- Autocorrelation
- Time series regression, Hotel Occupancy Case
- Random walk models
- Autoregressive models
- Example: Monthly stock closing prices
- Example: Daily/Monthly temperature
- Example: Monthly Boston Armed Robberies Jan.1966-Oct.1975

### **Thursday, March 27**

- Seasonal models
- Example: Fisher river daily temperatures
- Example: Monthly airline passengers
- Example: Monthly liquor sales
- Case study: Northern Napa Valley Winery, Inc.

### **Reading Assignments:**

Chapter 12 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition  
or  
Chapter 13 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition

### **Tuesday, April 1**

- Moving averages, exponential smoothing and ARMA
- Hypothesis testing: Type I Error, Type II Error, significant level, and power
- Understanding prediction errors in linear regression
- Model selection

### **Thursday, April 3**

- Review for Midterm Exam #2
- Model selection

### **Tuesday, April 8**

- Midterm Exam #2

### **Thursday, April 10**

- Model selection
- Measure uncertainty with probability
- Frequency probability and subjective probability
- Probability, lotteries and betting odds
- Payoff tables



- Conditional probability and conditional bets or conditional reference contracts

### **Tuesday, April 15**

- Bayes' theorem
- Simpson's paradox
- Payoffs and Losses
- Nonprobabilistic criteria for decision making: maximin, minimax, and maximin loss

### **Thursday, April 17**

- Probabilistic criteria for decision making: expected payoff, expected loss
- Utility functions
- Decision trees, risk profile, sensitivity analysis

### **Tuesday, April 22**

- The value of information
- Expected value of perfect information (EVPI)
- Expected value of sample information (EVSI)
- Case study: Freemark Abbey Winery
- Introduction to simulation

### **Reading Assignments:**

Chapter 6 of Data analysis and decision making, 4th edition  
or  
Chapter 7 of Data analysis and decision making, 3rd edition