Student Supervision & Teaching

Kaspar Rufibach, PhD
Biostatistician
http://www.kasparrufibach.ch

Last updated: 8th April 2025

THESIS AND INTERN SUPERVISION:

Löwe, H. (2023). Implementation of correlation between PFS and OS into the **simIDM** package. Three month full-time internship with Roche Statistical engineering, Basel. Co-supervised with Daniel Sabanés Bové and Matthias Meller.

Vazquez Rabunal, M. (2023). Improved treatment effect estimation in subgroups displayed in forest plots based on Bayesian shrinkage priors. Four month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel. Co-supervised with Marcel Wolbers and Daniel Sabanés Bové.

Sawant, A. (2022). Truncation by death for longitudinal continuous data: estimands and estimation methods. Four month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel.

Chen, X. (2019). Sample size for prediction models. Three month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel. Co-supervised with Markus Elze and Gian Thanei.

Li, K. (2018). Optimism-corrected treatment effect estimates in subgroups displayed in forest plots for time-to-event outcomes. Master thesis to obtain Master in Biostatistics, University of Zurich. Initiated within three month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel. Co-supervised with Marcel Wolbers. Academic supervisor: Prof. Torsten Hothorn, University of Zurich.

Meller, M. (2016). Joint Modelling of Overall Survival and Progression Free Survival. Master thesis to obtain Master in Biostatistics, University of Ulm. Initiated within four month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel. Academic supervisor: Prof. Jan Beyersmann, University of Ulm. Winner of the Bernd Streitberg Award 2018 of the German Region of the International Biometric Society.

Hebeisen, M. (2014). Estimation from Interval-censored Time-to-event Data: Method Comparison by Simulation based on GALLIUM Study for Follicular Lymphoma. Master thesis to obtain Master in Biostatistics, University of Zurich. Prepared within seven month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel. Academic supervisor: Prof. Torsten Hothorn, University of Zurich. download thesis

Hubeaux, S. (2013). Analysis of time-to-event data with interval- or left-censored covariates. Six month full-time internship with Roche Biostatistics, Basel.

Boutellier, P. (2013). What does a PSA bounce look like? A numerical and graphical description of the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) bounce phenomenon in patients treated for prostate cancer with brachytherapy only. Master thesis to obtain Master in Medicine, University of Zurich.

Loiero, D. (2012). Inter- and Intrareader variability of Ratingen score in the Swiss Clinical Quality Management database. Master thesis to obtain Master in Medicine, University of Zurich.

Scherer, A. (2011). Determinants of TNFa inhibitor prescription in the Swiss Clinical Quality Management cohort of axial Spondylarthropathy patients. Semester thesis in Master of Biostatistics program, University of Zurich.

Achermann, R. (2008). Netrin-1 und DCC Expression bei Hirntumoren. Semester thesis in Master of Biostatistics program, University of Zurich.

Lanz, K., Weber M. (2005). Sehleistung unter körperlicher Anstrengung. Swiss Technical School for Optometrics, Olten, Switzerland.

TEACHING LEADERSHIP

- At Roche, I led the official roll-out of the ICH E9 addendum within Roche, for statisticians and partner functions (such as clinical science, regulatory, biometrics, early research).
- A full-day introductory biostatistics course that I gave at Roche together with Marcel Wolbers has been selected as part of the official training program for all Roche affiliates globally.

SHORT COURSES FOR STATISTICALLY TRAINED AUDIENCES

06/2024	Introduction to and applications of survival analysis. (IBS German and Austrian-Swiss Region Summer school, with Paul Blanche [U Copenhagen], Sarah Friedrich [U Augsburg], Helga Wagner [U Linz].)
05/2024	Courses on basics of clinical trials, group-sequential designs, estimands, subgroup analysis. (Within MSc program "Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Drug Development and Regulatory Affairs", University of Innsbruck, Austria.)
09/2023	Advanced group-sequential and adaptive confirmatory clinical trial designs, with R practicals using rpact. (Pre-conference course at 5th Conference of the Central European Network, Basel, Switzerland, with Gernot Wassmer [rpact], Marc Vandemeulebroecke [Novartis], Marcel Wolbers [Roche].)
08/2023	Causal Inference in Randomized Controlled Trials. (Pre-conference course at Joint Statistical Meetings in Toronto, with Mouna Akacha, Robin Dunn, Tianmeng Lyu [all Novartis], Shanti Gomatam [FDA].)
08/2023	$Basic\ methods\ for\ group-sequential\ trials.\ ({\bf Roche\ internal\ course}\ for\ biostatisticians,\ Mississauga,\ Canada.)$
03/2023	Courses on basics of clinical trials, group-sequential designs, estimands, subgroup analysis. (Within MSc program "Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences in Drug Development and Regulatory Affairs", University of Innsbruck, Austria.)
02/2023	Some challenges with implementing estimands in real life. (Recording for online training for The Effective Statistician Academy, Butzbach, Germany.)
02/2023	Basic and advanced methods for group-sequential trials. (Roche internal course for biostatisticians. With Marcel Wolbers.)
09/2022	Advanced group-sequential and adaptive confirmatory clinical trial designs, with R practicals using rpact. (Organized by the Basel Biometrics Section, Basel. With Gernot Wassmer [rpact], Marc Vandemeulebroecke [Novartis], Marcel Wolbers [Roche], full-day course)
02/2022	"Confirmatory adaptive designs" for drug developers. (Two half-days course for drug development functions at Roche, run 3 times with in total >650 participants)
12/2021	$\begin{tabular}{ll} Adaptive\ Design\ in\ Clinical\ Trials.\ (Two\ half-days\ course\ in\ collaboration\ with\ DIA) \end{tabular}$
05/2021	$successR: comprehensive \ resource \ for \ training, \ methodology, \ and \ computational tools \ around \ success \ probabilities.$ (Five 2.5-hour shortcourses for all Roche biostatisticians)

05/2021	Stop the abuse: A plea for a more principled approach to the analysis of time-to-event endpoints with competing risks, with a focus on analysis of AEs. (Two 2.5-hour shortcourses for all Roche biostatisticians, with Marcel Wolbers)
01/2021	Answering Old Questions with New Tools: Application of the ICH E9 Addendum in Oncology. (Two 2.5-hour shortcourses for all Roche biostatisticians, with Godwin Yung)
12/2020	Answering Old Questions with New Tools: Application of the ICH E9 Addendum in Oncology. (Half-day shortcourse at 76th Annual Deming Conference on Applied Statistics, with Evgeny Degtyarev)
06/2020 - 12/2020	A Toolbox for Innovative Confirmatory Trial Designs. Four 2h modules on group-sequential, adaptive, and multiarm multistage designs. (Virtual course for all Roche biostatisticians, with Marcel Wolbers)
10/2019	Advanced methods for group-sequential and adaptive trials. (Summer school organized on behalf of the German Region of the IBS, Lambrecht, Germany. With Marc Vandemeulebroecke, Gernot Wassmer, and Marcel Wolbers, 3-day course)
07/2019	Advanced methods for group-sequential trials. (ISCB40, Leuven, Belgium. With Marcel Wolbers. Half-day pre-conference course)
03/2019	${\it Group-sequential\ clinical\ trial\ designs,\ advanced\ topics.\ (Roche,\ Basel.\ With\ Marcel\ Wolbers.\ Half-day\ course)}$
03/2018	$Group-sequential\ and\ adaptive\ clinical\ trial\ designs,\ with\ R\ practicals.\ (Organized\ by\ the\ Basel\ Biometrics\ Section,\ Basel.\ With\ Daniel\ Sabanés\ Bové,\ Marc\ Vandemeulebroecke,\ Marcel\ Wolbers,\ full-day\ course)$
06/2013	Analysis of Longitudinal data. (Roche, Basel. 8-hour course)
01/2011	Analysis of Longitudinal data. (Institue for Medical Biometry, Epidemiology, and Informatics, University of Mainz. 3-day course, with Leo Held)
06/2010	Analysis of Longitudinal data, as part of Master in Medical Biometry. (Department of Medical Biometry, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg. 3-day course, with Leo Held)

GRADUATE LEVEL TEACHING FOR STATISTICIANS

Preparing and teaching lecture to Master students, preparing and discussing exercises (blackboard and with R), preparing and grading exams.

12/2019	Introduction to Applied Mathematics and Informatics in Drug Discovery (AMIDD), one session: Interim look into pivotal clinical trials - why it matters and how to do it (Graduate level, University of Basel)
11/2013	Statistical Methods for Clinical Research, one session on group-sequential designs in clinical research (Graduate level, University of Zurich)
11/2012 - 12/2012	Statistical Methods for Clinical Research, two sessions: group-sequential designs in clinical research and measures of agreement (Graduate level, University of Zurich)
09/2011 - 12/2011	Statistical Methods for Clinical Research (Graduate level, University of Zurich)
02/2010 - 06/2010	Longitudinal data analysis (joint with Prof. L. Held, graduate level, University of Zurich)
09/2009 - 12/2009	Biostatistical methods, Part II: Statistical methods for clinical trials (graduate level, University of Zurich)

02/2009 - 05/2009 Likelihood inference

(joint with Prof. L. Held, graduate level, University of Zurich)

10/2005 – 02/2006 Introduction to Statistics (undergraduate level, University of Bern)

SHORT COURSES FOR NON-STATISTICAL AUDIENCES

09/2024	Survival analysis, group-sequential trial designs (European Center of Pharmaceutical Medicine Course, Basel)
06/2024	$Basics\ of\ clinical\ trial\ designs$ (European Center of Pharmaceutical Medicine Course, Basel)
10/2023	Futility analyses - they are not futile! (90min session for medical affairs, Roche, Basel)
10/2023	$Introduction\ to\ survival\ analysis\ (30 {\rm min\ session\ for\ medical\ affairs,\ Roche,} \\ {\rm Basel})$
05/2023	Multiplicity (2h course for Pharmacometrics department, Roche, Basel)
09/2022 - 10/2022	Introduction to statistics, survival analysis, interpretation of subgroups in clinical trials, interim analyses (2 days for swiss health quality association, Zug)
09/2022	The Concept of Estimands / Group-Sequential Designs and Interim Analyses in Drug Development / Survival Analysis (European Center of Pharmaceutical Medicine Course, Basel)
06/2022	$Basic\ Statistical\ Concepts$ (European Center of Pharmaceutical Medicine Course, Basel)
06/2022	$Estimands\ in\ Multiple\ Sclerosis$ (1-hour course for Roche's MS clinical science community, virtual event)
04/2022	$Platform\ trials\ in\ drug\ development$ (1-hour course for Roche's Nordic commercial organization, virtual event)
11/2021	The final word on interim analyses (2-hour courses for all product development colleagues, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
10/2021	How to survive survival analysis? (2-hour courses for all product development colleagues, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
05/2021	Introduction to statistics. (2-hour courses for all product development colleagues, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
05/2021	2-hour training for clinical reviewers: Implications of the ICH E9 estimand addendum on how we develop, run, and analyse clinical trials (Agância Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária (ANVISA, virtual event))
05/2021	Introduction to statistics. (2-hour courses for all product development colleagues, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
01/2021	Introduction to statistics. (Two 2-hour courses for all Medical Science Liaison colleagues within Roche Medical Affairs, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
12/2020	Survival analysis in rheumatology. (1-hour course for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at St. Gallen Hospital, virtual event)
11/2020	Introduction to statistics. (Two 2-hour courses for all product development colleagues, Roche, Basel, virtual event)
09/2020	Introduction to survival and interim analyses. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Basel & Welwyn, virtual event)
08/2020	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Basel & Welwyn, virtual event)

01/2020	Introduction to survival and interim analyses. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Basel)
01/2020	How to interpret subgroup analyses in clinical trials? (2-hour course for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at University Hospital Zurich.)
11/2019 - 01/2020	Design of Experiments & Effective Statistical Practices. (Three two-hour courses for early development organization, Roche, Basel)
10/2019	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Basel)
01/2019	Introduction to statistics in clinical trials. (2-hour course for Medical Science Liaison group, Roche Swiss Affiliate, Reinach)
01/2019	Introduction to survival analysis and clinical trial designs, Part II. (2-hour course for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at Baden Hospital.)
01/2019	Estimands and real-world data in drug development. (Half-day course for early development Neuroscience, Ophthalmology and Rare Disease scientists, Roche, Basel)
11/2018	Introduction to survival analysis and clinical trial designs. (Half-day course for early development Neuroscience, Ophthalmology and Rare Disease scientists, Roche, Basel)
03/2018	Introduction to survival analysis and clinical trial designs. (3-hour course for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at Baden Hospital.)
02/2018	Introduction to survival analysis and clinical trial designs. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department and Global Project Managers, Roche, Basel)
11/2017	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department and Global Project Managers, Roche, Basel)
07/2017	Sample size planning and survival analysis in clinical trials. (Full-day course for Medical Affairs and Clinical Science Departments, Roche, Basel, jointly with Marcel Wolbers)
04/2017	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Competitive Intelligence Group, Roche, Basel)
03/2017	Introduction to statistics. (2-hour course for Finance Department, Roche, Basel)
11/2016	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Mississauga)
10/2016	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche, Basel)
08/2016	Introduction to statistics. (3-hour course for Media Group Roche, Basel)
03/2016 - 11/2016	Five workshops on specific biostatistical topics in clinical trials. (3-hour courses for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at hospitals in Sion, St. Gallen, Frauenfeld, Aarau, Zürich.)
05/2016	Introduction to statistics. (Half-day course for Regulatory Documentation Department, Genentech, South San Francisco and Roche, Basel)
02/2016	Introduction to statistics in clinical trials. (Half-day course for Medical Science Liaison group, Roche Swiss Affiliate, Reinach)
01/2016 - 02/2016	Introduction to statistics. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course, as part of the Master of Advanced Studies in Managed Health Care. (2-day course, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Management and Law, Winterthur Institute for Health Economics, Winterthur)

11/2015	Introduction to statistics. (1-day course for Statistical Programming and Analysis Department, Roche Basel)
10/2015	Introduction to statistics. (Two 1-day courses for Regulatory Documentation Department, Roche Basel & Welwyn)
05/2015	Introduction to statistics. (1-day course for Product Development Department, Roche Basel)
02/2015	Introduction to statistics. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course, as part of the Master of Advanced Studies in Managed Health Care. (2-day course, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Management and Law, Winterthur Institute for Health Economics, Winterthur)
06/2014 - 11/2014	Four workshops on specific biostatistical topics in clinical trials. (3-hour courses for medical doctors, organized by Roche Switzerland at hospitals in Zürich, Lausanne, Basel, Baden.)
01/2014 - 03/2014	Introduction to statistics. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course, as part of the Master of Advanced Studies in Managed Health Care. (3-day course, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Management and Law, Winterthur Institute for Health Economics, Winterthur)
11/2013	Workshop on survival analysis in oncology. (3-hour course for Roche Oncology sales force, Reinach)
06/2013 - 04/2014	Seven workshops on survival analysis in oncology. (3-hour courses for medical doctors organized jointly by Roche Switzerland and Novartis Switzerland at hospitals in Basel, Zürich, Bern, Luzern, Lausanne, Lugano, Olten.)
01/2012 - 03/2012	Introduction to statistics. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course, as part of the Master of Advanced Studies in Managed Health Care. (3-day course, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Management and Law, Winterthur Institute for Health Economics, Winterthur)
09/2011	Statistics in oncology. (1-day course, cancer biology PhD program, University of Zurich)
04/2011	How to write a scientific paper – statistical aspects. (4-hour course as part of medical curriculum, University Hospital, Zurich)
02/2011	Introduction to biostatistics. (3-hour course, continuing education for radiologists, University Hospital, Bern)
03/2010	Samples, confidence intervals, statistical tests, and p-values. (1-hour talk, Medical radiology department, University Hospital Zurich, Zurich)
01/2010 - 05/2010	Introduction to statistics. Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) course, as part of the Master of Advanced Studies in Managed Health Care. (3-day course, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, School of Management and Law, Winterthur Institute for Health Economics, Winterthur)
09/2010	Statistics in oncology. (1-day course, cancer biology PhD program, University of Zurich)
09/2009	Statistics in oncology. (1-day course, cancer biology PhD program, University of Zurich)
09/2009	$Assessment\ of\ agreement\ between\ continuous\ variables.\ \ (\mbox{1-hour\ talk},\ \mbox{Waid}\ \ \mbox{Hospital},\ \mbox{Zurich})$
02/2009	Introduction to biostatistics. (1-hour talk, Triemli Hospital, Zurich)
01/2009	Introduction to biostatistics.
,	(1-day course, continuing studies for researchers, University of Zurich)

09/2008 Statistics in oncology.

(1-day course, cancer biology PhD program, University of Zurich)

02/2008 Linear models.

(1-day course, continuing studies for researchers, University of Zurich)

04/2005 - 05/2005 Introduction to R. (2-day course, continuing studies, University of Bern)

FURTHER SHORT COURSES

 $09/2011 \\ Optimization.$

(2-hour course, Energy trading academy, BKW FMB Energie AG)