

# CPSY 501: Advanced Statistics

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[cpsy501.seanho.com](http://cpsy501.seanho.com)

- No *food*/drink in the computer lab, please!

- Please pick-up:
  - *Syllabus*
  - *Project Handout*
  - *HW 1*

# Outline for today

- Welcome, devotional, introductions
- Administrative details: syllabus, schedule
  - MyCourses, SPSS, textbook
- Stats review:
  - Purpose, research questions
  - Linear models
  - Correlation, Spearman's  $\rho$ ,  $\chi^2$ ,
  - Comparing means (*t*-test): RM vs. groups
- Data Analysis Project, HW Assignment 1
  - Kafui's SPSS tutorials

# Stats review: purpose

- What is the **purpose** of statistical analysis in counselling psychology research?
  - → **Research questions!**
- Statistics allows us to (1) **pose** new questions and (2) **answer** them – decision-making tool
  - Is an **effect**/relationship real? How **strong**?
- Possible **limitations**, assumptions:
  - Danger of extreme **reductionism**
  - **Neutrality** of observation, **objectivity**
  - Looking at **groups**, not individuals

# Cycles in statistical analysis

- Formulate **research question**
- **Data prep**: input errors/typos, missing data, univariate outliers
- **Explore** variables: IV, DV, descriptives
- **Model** building: choose a model based on RQ
- Model testing: are **assumptions** met?
  - If not, either clean **data** or change **model**
  - May need to **modify RQ**!
- Run final model and interpret **results**



# Research question: example

- RQ: are men taller than women?
  - Is this relationship real? How strong is it?
- What are the variables? IV/DV? Level of meas?
  - Levels of measurement: categorical, ordinal, scale (interval, ratio)
  - IV: gender (dichot), DV: height (scale)
- What type of test should we use?
  - Independent samples: *t*-test
- Limitations/assumptions of this test?

# Model-building process

- Operationally **define** a phenomenon: variables
- **Measure** it (collect data)
- **Build** a model: verify data meet **assumptions** and **input** data into model
- Draw **conclusions** and/or predictions about the phenomenon in the “**real world**” population
  - e.g., if child A holds 2 apples, B:6 apples, and C:1, how many apples is a child most likely to have?
  - Individual vs. group

# Statistical model: example

- RQ: does self-esteem correlate with school performance?
- How do we **measure** / gather data?
  - Questionnaire and marks
- Choose **model**: correlation
- **Assumptions!** Measures, procedures, model
- Make **conclusions**: based on assumptions
  - Objectivity, individual vs. group,
  - **Linearity** is a big assumption!

# Linear modelling

- A **linear model** is a straight “line” that best fits the observed data
  - Minimizes **error** (least-squares) of model
- Use **analytic** techniques to **derive** the equation of the linear model directly from the data, or
- Use **optimization** techniques to try to find the line that maximizes the **goodness of fit** between model and data:
  - **Test statistic** =  
(variance due to **model**) / (due to **error**)



# Linear modelling: summary

- Statistics are used to build models of psychological **phenomena** out of **observations** gathered from specific **samples** of individuals
- The most common type of statistical model is **linear** – straight “line” (or plane, hyperplane, ...) that minimizes **distance** from model to data
- The **adequacy** of the model to explain the data can be calculated through **test statistics**
  - If there is a **poor fit**, the model may need to be revised, or to consider additional confounding variables

# Linear modelling: limitations

- What if vars are **not** related in a linear way?
- Many common procedures (some **ANOVA**, some **regression**) depend strongly on **linearity**
  - If linearity is violated, results are only very **approximate**
  - Even **non-parametric** models are often approximations using group patterns
- **Reifying** models: “correct” the data to better fit the assumptions of the model!
- **Examples** of psychological phenomena vars that are related non-linearly?

# Linear Correlation

- A measure of the strength of the **linear** relationship between two variables
- Relies on measuring **covariance** between vars
  - When **one** var **deviates** from mean, does the **other** var also deviate?
  - Does it deviate in the **same** direction?
- **Correlation** is a value between  $-1$  and  $+1$ 
  - Close to  $+1$ : **positive** relationship
  - Close to  $-1$ : **negative** relationship
  - Close to  $0$ : **no** relationship

# Measuring correl: Pearson's $r$

- The most common way to measure correlation is **Pearson's product-moment correlation** coefficient, named  $r$ :
- Requires **parametric** data:
  - **Indep** obs, **scale** level, **normally** distrib!
- **Example: ExamAnxiety.sav**
  - Measured **anxiety** before exam, time spent **reviewing** before exam, and exam **performance** (% score)

# Pearson's correlation coeff

Name of  
Correlation  
Statistic

Significance  
Value ( $p$ )

Correlations				
		Exam performance (%)	Exam Anxiety	Time spent revising
Exam performance (%)	Pearson Correlation	1	-.441**	.397**
	Sig. (1-tailed)		.000	.000
	N	103	103	103
Exam Anxiety	Pearson Correlation	-.441**	1	-.709**
	Sig. (1-tailed)	.000		.000
	N	103	103	103
Time spent revising	Pearson Correlation	.397**	-.709**	1
	Sig. (1-tailed)	.000	.000	
	N	103	103	103

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (1-tailed).

Each variable is  
perfectly correlated  
with itself!

# Spearman's Rho ( $\rho$ or $r_s$ )

- Another way of calculating correlation
- **Non-parametric**: can be used when data violate parametricity assumptions
- No free lunch: **loses** information about data
- Spearman's works by first **ranking** the data, then applying Pearson's to those ranks
- **Example**: **grades.sav**
  - grade on a national math **exam** (GCSE)
  - grade in a univ. stats **course** (STATS)
  - coded by “**letter**” (A=1, B=2, C=3, ...)

# Spearman's Rho ( $\rho$ or $r_s$ ): ex

Name of  
Correlation  
Statistic

Correlations

			Statistics Grade	GCSE Maths Grade
Spearman's rho	Statistics Grade	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.455*
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.	.011
		N	25	25
	GCSE Maths Grade	Correlation Coefficient	.455*	1.000
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.011	.
		N	25	25

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (1-tailed).

Sample Size

Correlation is  
positive

# Chi-Square test ( $\chi^2$ )

- Evaluates whether there is a relationship between two **categorical** variables
- The Pearson **chi-square** statistic tests whether the two variables are **independent**
- If the **significance** is small enough ( $p < \alpha$ , usually  $\alpha = .05$ ), we **reject the null** hypothesis that the two variables are independent (unrelated)
  - i.e., we think that they are in some way related.



# *t*-Tests: comparing two means

- Moving beyond correlational research...
- We often want to look at the **effect** of one variable on another by systematically **changing** some aspect of that variable
- That is, we want to **manipulate** one variable to observe its effect on another variable.
- ***t*-tests** are for **comparing** two means
- Two types of application of *t*-tests:
  - **Related**/dependent measures
  - **Independent** groups

# Related/dependent $t$ -tests

- A **repeated measures** experiment that has 2 conditions (levels of the IV)
- The **same subjects** participate in both conditions
- We expect that a person's behaviour will be the **same** in both conditions
  - **External factors** kept same in both:
    - e.g., Age, gender, IQ, motivation, ...
- **Experimental Manipulation**: we change the environment between the two conditions:
  - The only difference between conditions is the manipulation the experimenter made
  - e.g., **Control** vs. test

# Independent samples *t*-tests

- We still have 2 **conditions** (levels of the IV), but **different subjects** participate in each condition – i.e., different **groups**
- So, differences between the two group **means** might reflect:
  - The manipulation (i.e., **systematic** variation)
  - Differences between characteristics of the people allotted to each group (i.e., **unsystematic** variation)
  - **Question**: what is one way we can try to keep the “**noise**” in an experiment to a minimum?

# *t*-Tests

- *t*-tests work by identifying **sources** of systematic and unsystematic variation, and then **comparing** them.
- The comparison lets us see whether the experiment created **considerably** more variation than we would have got if we had just tested the participants without the experimental manipulation.

# Example: dependent samples

- SpiderRM.sav
- “Paired” samples *t*-test
- 12 ‘spider phobes’ exposed to a picture of a spider (picture), and on a separate occasion, a real live tarantula (real)
- Their anxiety was measured at each time (i.e., in each condition).
- What are the variables? IV/DV?
- Is the predictor a grouping variable or a repeated-measures variable?

# Example: paired *t*-Tests

Degrees of freedom  
(= $N-1$  for repeated  
measures)

Paired Samples Test

		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	Picture of Spider - Real Spider	-7.00000	9.80723	2.83110	-13.23122	-.76878	-2.473	11	.031
Pair 2	Picture of Spider - Real Spider	7.00000	9.80723	2.83110	-13.23122	-.76878	-2.473	11	.031

Standard deviation of  
pairwise differences  
between conditions

Standard error of the  
pairwise differences

Probability that the  
given value of 't'  
might have occurred  
by chance

# Example: indep samples *t*-test

- Used in situations where there are 2 experimental conditions – and **different** participants are used in each condition

## Example: SpiderBG.sav

- 12 spider phobes exposed to a **picture** of a spider (picture)
- 12 **different** spider phobes exposed to a **real-life** tarantula
- **Anxiety** was measured in each condition

### Group Statistics

Condition		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Anxiety	Picture	12	40.0000	9.29320	2.68272
	Real Spider	12	47.0000	11.02889	3.18377

Summary statistics for both groups

$$(N_1 + N_2) - 2 = 22$$

### Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means						
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
									Lower	Upper
Anxiety	Equal variances assumed	.782	.386	-1.681	22	.107	-7.00000	4.16333	-15.63422	1.63422
	Equal variances not assumed			-1.681	21.385	.107	-7.00000	4.16333	-15.64864	1.64864

$t$ -test is **parametric**: assumes variances in both groups are similar

If **Levene's** test is sig., the assumption of homogeneity of variance has been violated

**Significance** ( $p$ -value):  $> \alpha = .05$ , so there is no significant difference between the means of the 2 samples



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- Data Analysis **Project**, HW **Assignment 1**

# Data Analysis Project

- Half of this course is your semester-long data analysis **project**:
  - Find suitable **existing data**
  - **Propose** a new statistical analysis of it
  - Get approval by **Research Ethics Board**
  - Go through “spiral” of statistical **analysis**
  - **Write** it up in an APA-style manuscript
- **Groups** of up to 3 people
  - Can also be done individually
  - Email me when you have your group

# Project step 1: Finding data

- It must be **existing** data – you are **not** allowed to collect data for this course! (no time!)
  - **No simulated** (made-up) data
- Minimum **sample size**: 50
- Minimum of **3 variables** (2 IV, 1 DV)
- Analysis: multiple **regression** or **ANOVA**
  - Non-parametric only with permission
- Possible **sources**: your own data, faculty members, CPSY dept thesis data, publicly available / government data (WHO, NIH, etc.)

# Dataset description: due 1 Oct

- Written **description** of the dataset you will be using and the particular **variables** you consider
- Preliminary **explorations** of the data
  - Descriptives, histograms, boxplots, etc.
  - Include as **figures** in your write-up
- APA manuscript style not needed, but please format it **neatly** in a document (Word, etc.)
- **Upload** your document to myCourses
  - One person can submit for whole group

# Project step 2: Proposal/meeting

- Written **proposal** of the particular analysis you plan to do on the dataset
  - Old data, but **new analysis**
  - State specific **research questions**
  - Check **sample size** is sufficient (**GPower3**)
  - Anticipate possible **problems**, plan
- Book an **appointment** with me (Neu 5) by **8Oct**
  - **All** team members there
  - Send me your **proposal** >24hrs before
  - Upload or bring your **dataset** on USB key

# Project step 3: REB (due 15Oct)

- Approval by TWU Research Ethics Board is required **before** any new analysis may be done!
  - Cursory exploration as in dataset description and proposal is okay
- You are **not** allowed to start your new analysis until you get REB approval
- Use the “**Analysis of Existing Data**” form
- You need **written permission** from the original owner of the data
  - For CPSY **theses**, the faculty supervisor
  - None needed for **publicly available** data

# Project step 4: Manuscript

- Focus is to demonstrate **statistical** analysis, not to deal with the subject area in question
  - It's okay if you don't find groundbreaking **results** for all of counselling psychology
  - **Methodology** and statistics will be **more** detailed than a “real” research paper
- Full **APA** manuscript format is required!
  - Include **tables**/figures
- Max length **15 pages** + annotated SPSS **output**
- Due Sat **18 Dec** at noon

# HW Assignment 1: Stats review

- Four **homework** assignments over the semester will give you practice on the concepts in lecture
- **HW assignment 1** (due 24Sep, in two weeks):
  - Review of undergrad **statistics**
  - Practice with **SPSS**
- **Download** from our website: “**Assignments**”
  - Assignment: **HW1-Review.html**
  - SPSS Dataset: **HW1-ADD.sav**



# Practice reading for next week

- For practice, try reading this **journal article**, focusing on their **statistical** methods
- **Missirlian**, et al., “*Emotional Arousal, Client Perceptual Processing, and the Working Alliance in Experiential Psychotherapy for Depression*”, *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, Vol. 73, No. 5, pp. 861–871, 2005.
- **Download** from website, under today's **lecture**
- Much of it you might not understand, but see how much you can get!

# For discussion next time:

- What **research questions** do the authors state that they are addressing?
- What **analytical strategy** was used, and how **appropriate** is it for addressing their questions?
- What were their main **conclusions**, and are these conclusions **warranted** from the actual results /statistics /analyses that were reported?
- How might you **adjust** the methods for a more **complete** picture of the phenomenon of interest (e.g., sampling, description of analysis process, effect sizes, handling multiple comparisons)?

# SPSS tutorials by Kafui

- Our TA, **Kafui**, has graciously agreed to do **tutorials** on getting started with SPSS
  - If there is interest, at **4pm Tues** or next **Fri** in the Wong Centre (is there interest?)
- [Kafui.Sawyer@mytwu.ca](mailto:Kafui.Sawyer@mytwu.ca)