1. Introduction/Overview

Readings: Benjamin et al (2017)
Goodman (1999)

R: Lab 0 and Lab 1

Overview

- Statistics as a discipline arose from the need to use data to answer scientific questions in the face of uncertainty

- Statistical concepts are at the heart of scientific inquiry in the health sciences

- Your mastery of fundamental concepts will facilitate:
  - a better understanding of published research
  - a better understanding of how to structure effective scientific research
  - interpretation and presentation of results
  - collaboration with other biostatisticians and scientific investigators

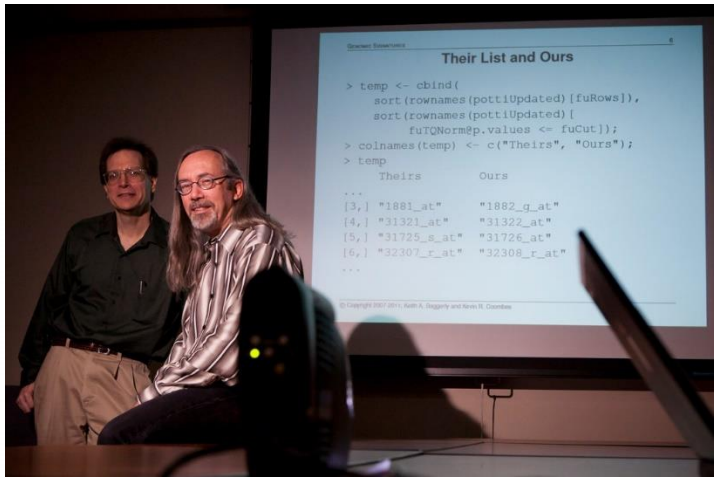
Compelling example that underscores the need for careful design, data handling, and analysis:

The Annals of Applied Statistics
2009, Vol. 3, No. 4, 1309–1334
DOI: 10.1214/09-AOAS291

DERIVING CHEMOSENSITIVITY FROM CELL LINES: FORENSIC BIOINFORMATICS AND REPRODUCIBLE RESEARCH IN HIGH-THROUGHPUT BIOLOGY

BY KEITH A. BAGGERLY[1] AND KEVIN R. COOMBES[2]

University of Texas



Source: New York Times

THE CANCER LETTER

Inside information on cancer research and drug development

Nov. 19, 2010

JCO Retracts Key Duke Genomics Paper; Duke Shuts Down Three Phase II Trials;

Anil Potti Resigns From Duke University

Oct. 18, 2013

NCI Sets Rules For Omics Studies

Exit Joseph Nevins: Duke's Genomics Luminary Quietly Leaves

Algorithms vs. Inference

Types of algorithms

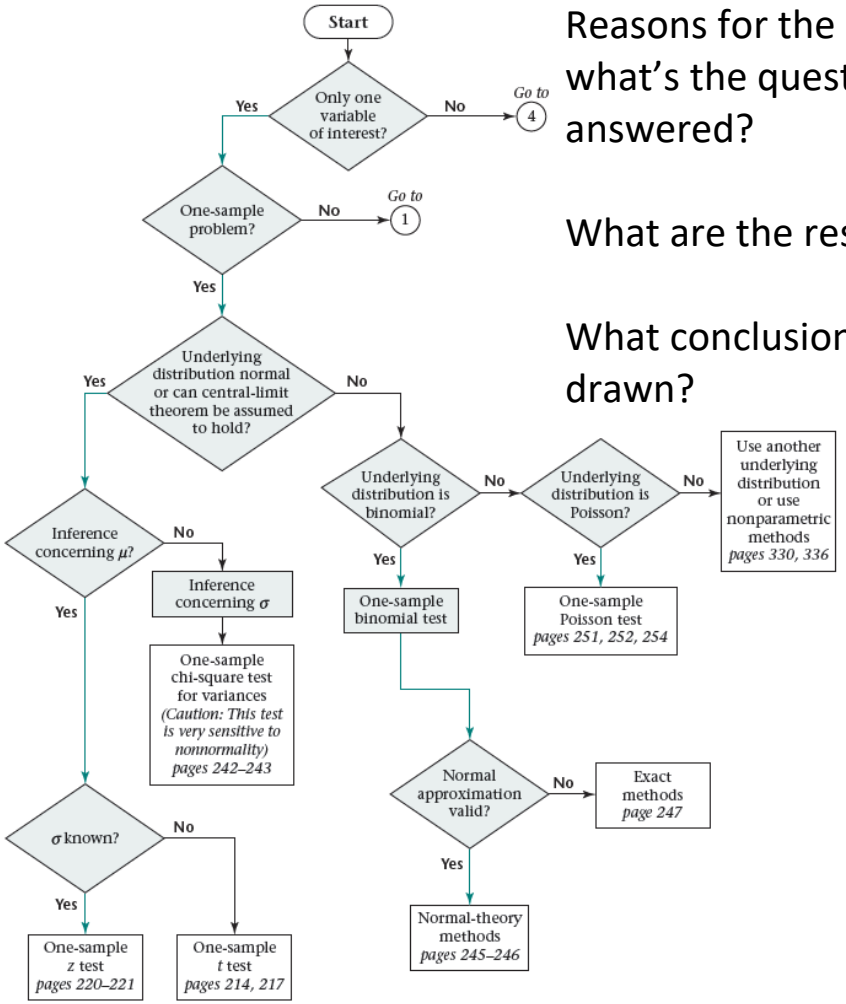
Inference

Inference

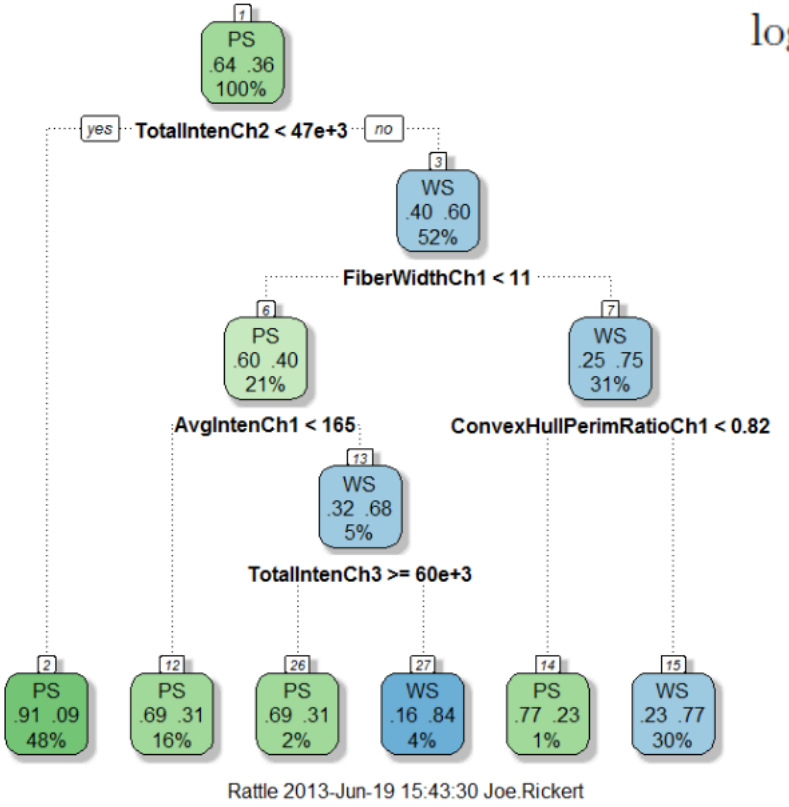
Reasons for the algorithm – what's the question being answered?

What are the results?

What conclusions can be drawn?



Algorithms vs. Models



$$\begin{aligned}\text{logit}(\mathbb{E}[Y_i|x_{1,i},...,x_{m,i}]) &= \text{logit}(p_i) \\ &= \log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) \\ &= \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1,i} + \cdots + \beta_m x_{m,i}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{logit}(\mathbb{E}[Y_i|\mathbf{X}_i]) &= \text{logit}(p_i) \\ &= \log\left(\frac{p_i}{1-p_i}\right) \\ &= \boldsymbol{\beta}\mathbf{X}_i\end{aligned}$$

Randomness

Randomness is fundamental to statistical inference

Control of randomness is key to experimentation and the scientific method

Random Number Generation

True Random Number Generator (TRNG) vs. Pseudo Random Number Generator (PRNG)

Characteristic	PRNG	TRNG
Efficiency	Excellent	Poor
Determinism	Deterministic	Nondeterministic
Periodicity	Periodic	Aperiodic

Application	Most Suitable Generator
Lotteries and Draws	TRNG
Games and Gambling	TRNG
Random Sampling (e.g., drug screening)	TRNG
Simulation and Modelling	PRNG
Security (e.g., generation of data encryption keys)	TRNG
The Arts	Varies

Source: www.random.org/randomness

Applications of random number generation

A. Research Design

Randomization/random allocation, random sampling

1. **Random Digits:** (Combinations of) 0, 1, …, 9 occur with the same relative frequency (uniformly distributed).
   a. Digits occur independently of occurrence of other digits
   b. Use these sequences for random selection or allocation
   c. For example, a random number table

2. **Random Selection (Sampling):** Selecting random portion of large population (e.g., select 10 units randomly from 1000)
   a. Tools in R include the “runif” and “sample” functions
   b. Simple random sampling, cluster sampling, stratified sampling

3. **Random Allocation:** Assigning treatments randomly to individual units or groups of units
   a. Tools in R include the “blockTools” package

Applications of random number generation

B. Random Sampling from Theoretical Distributions

Also known as *simulation*

Overview

- Simulation is a fundamental and powerful tool in statistical practice
- Simulation for understanding
- Simulation for experimentation
- https://www4.stat.ncsu.edu/~davidian/st810a/simulation_handout.pdf

IRReproducibility

Reliance on p-values –

- long-term trends leading up to the data + evidence provided by data; conflation of these has resulted in current approach which generally satisfies neither (Goodman, 1999)
- < 0.05 actually provides weak evidence against H_0 (Benjamin et al. 2017)

Multiplicity – leads to *selection* of results and this has an *effect* on observed ability to replicate results (see 2005 *JAMA* paper by Ioannidis on course website)

- Multiple variables, endpoints, time points, subgroups, comparisons
- Multiple hypothesis testing, multiple looks at the data
- Multiple models and adjustments
- Fishing expeditions, mountains of output without *a priori* thought and justification - *…what exactly was my (their) research hypothesis or question?…p-hacking …*

Publication bias – file drawer problem, publish or perish, sensationalism

Cognitive biases – preconceived notions about what effects are real, what effects could be real, what effects are likely not to be real

Reproducible Research

Reproducible research is the idea that data analyses, and more generally, scientific claims, are published with their data and software code so that others may verify the findings and build upon them.

Reproducible Research | Coursera
https://www.coursera.org/learn/reproducible-research

Open Science Paradigm

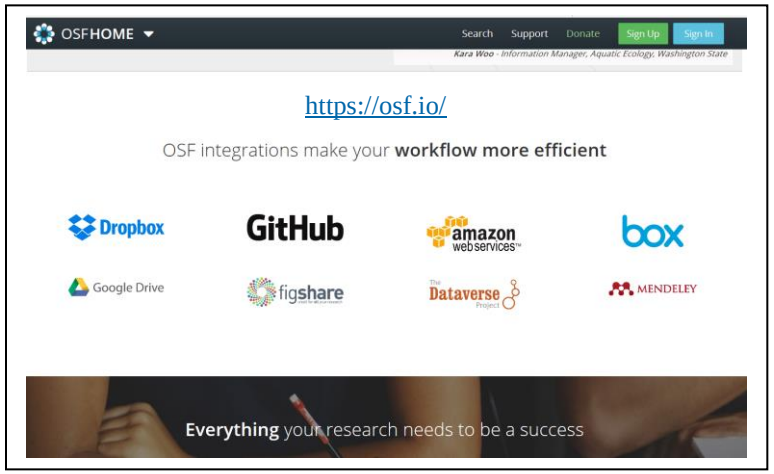
Open Access - Publications

Public access – free to anyone with an internet connection

Free: Use, reuse, remix

Pre-study: Study registration

Post-study: Preprints



Open Data

Known Provenance

Confidentiality assured

Portability (interoperability) built in

Excel-free, reproducible data manipulation/management best practices applied

Open Code

Version control used to track changes

Collaborative model – team science

Crowd sourcing – best solutions openly available

Miscellaneous

Throughout semester we'll:

Read

The statistical methods literature

Practice Reproducible Research Principles

"Lite" version …move towards compliance

Appreciate

("Peak") science writing – WIRED, Quanta, your favorites

Be on the lookout for cool, innovative graphics

ggjoy – R package

https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ggjoy/vignettes/introduction.html

R Gallery:

https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ggjoy/vignettes/gallery.html

Share

Resources …using Canvas