

Stata's statistical features empower you to answer a wide range of research questions. From linear and logistic regression to time-series and panel-data analyses, survival models, causal inference, Bayesian analysis, and machine learning, you can fit models, evaluate assumptions, make inferences, and interpret results with confidence. Explore statistical features  $\rightarrow$  Share - copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt - remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution - You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. The Workflow of Data analysis Using Stata, by J. Scott Long, is an essential productivity tool for data analysis. Aimed at analysis Using Stata, by J. Scott Long, is an essential productivity tool for data analysis. projects. In this book, Long presents lessons gained from his experience with numerous academic publications, as a coauthor of the spost routines, which are downloaded over 20,000 times a year. A workflow of data analysis is a process for managing all aspects of data analysis. Planning, documenting, and organizing your work; cleaning the data; creating, renaming, and verifying variables; performing and presenting statistical analyses; producing replicable results; and archiving what you have done are all integral parts of your workflow. Long shows how to design and implement efficient workflows for both one-person projects and team projects. Long guides you toward streamlining your workflow, because a good workflow is essential for replicating your work, and replication is essential for replicating your workflow. you methodically clean your data and carefully choose names and effective labels for your variables, the time you spend doing statistical and graphical analyses will be more productive and more enjoyable. After introducing workflows and explaining how a better workflow can make it easier to work with data, Long describes planning, organizing, and documenting your work. He then introduces how to write and debug Stata do-files and how to use local and global macros. Long presents conventions for naming, labeling, documenting, and verifying variables. He also covers cleaning, and verifying variables. He also covers cleaning, and verifying variables. Long also introduces the concepts of basic data management using Stata and writing Stata do-files. Using real-world examples, Stata commands, and Stata scripts, Long illustrates effective techniques for managing your data and analyses. If you analyze data, this book is recommended for you. Comments from readers You have written the book that I had planned to write someday. But I'm glad I didn't—your book is much better. Congratulations, this was greatly needed. Prof. Bill Gardner The Ohio State University I will post the announcement of Workflow on my door with the following note: "I'm glad to help anybody who followed at least 25% of the advice Long provides—and brings me their do-files!" Prof. Alan C. Acock Oregon State University I just wanted to send you a thank you for taking the time to write this book. I feel a little like an obsessed fan because I read it for several hours last night, bought 3 copies for my new research team and am presenting our new organization scheme tomorrow. It turns out that we have just finished a first flurry of data collection and hiring and I've been scratching my head about how to systematize some aspects. It is a perfect time to superimpose a structure. I've used aspects of your plan in my own work (hence my eagerness to adopt) but having this coherent volume is a wonderful and practical resource. I learned a lot from reading this. Thank you! Elizabeth Gifford, Ph.D. Research Scientist Duke University I just received a knock at my door with my new copy of The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata. I immediately ripped off the packaging and began perusing it. Just before the knock, I was attempting to write a program to get Stata to save the r(mean) and r(sd) for two variables following a summarize command to be saved for a ttesti command. After looking at your book for about two minutes, I stumbled upon pages 91-92, where it gave me all the information I need. ... I have only had the book about 10 minutes and already it has made my life easier. Thanks much, and I am already looking forward to reading the rest of the book! Claire M. Kamp Dush, Ph.D. The Ohio State University I am a Spanish professor of public economics who is at present enjoying a study-research leave at Melbourne University (Australia). Because of that I have had the time to read your book from cover to cover. I just want to thank you for the incredible work you have done! A book such as this one is a must for anyone trying to make an academic career. Definitely, I will recommend it to my graduate students as soon as I go back to Spain. If I had the chance to reach this book twenty years ago I would have been much more efficient doing my work. Never is it too late! Thanks! Prof. Jose Felix Sanz-Sanz Dept. of Applied Economics Universidad Complutense de Madrid The Workflow of Data Analysis Using Stata This project deals with the principles that guide data analysis and how to implement those principles using Stata. You can order the book from Stata Press. Process of using data analysis Not to be confused with Statistical interference. Part of a series on Research design Ethics Proposal Question Writing Argument Referencing Research strategy Interdisciplinary Multimethodology Qualitative Art-based Quantitative Philosophical schools Antipositivism Critical realism Subtle realism Subtle realism Methodology Action research Art methodology Critical theory Hermeneutics Historiography Human subject research Narrative inquiry Phenomenology Pragmatism Scientific method Methods Analysis Case study Content analysis Ethnography Experiment Field experiment Field research Historical method Inferential statistics Interviews Mapping Cultural mapping Phenomenography Secondary research Bibliometrics Scoping review Systematic review Sciencific modelling Simulation Statistics Philosophy portalvte Statistical inference is the process of using data analysis to infer properties of an underlying probability distribution. [1] Inferential statistical analysis infers properties of a population, for example by testing hypotheses and deriving estimates. It is assumed that the observed data set is sampled from a larger population. Inferential statistics can be contrasted with descriptive statistics. Descriptive statistics is solely concerned with properties of the observed data, and it does not rest on the assumption that the data come from a larger population. In machine learning, the term inference is sometimes used instead to mean "make a prediction, by evaluating an already trained model";[2] in this context inferring properties of the model is referred to as training or learning (rather than inference), and using a model for prediction); see also predictive inference (instead of prediction); see also prediction); see also predictive inference (instead of predictive inference) and using a model for prediction (inference) and using a model for predictive inference) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive); see also predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive inference (instead of predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for predictive) and using a model for predictive (inference) and using a model for p hypothesis about a population, for which we wish to draw inferences, statistical inference consists of (first) selecting a statistical model.[3] Konishi and Kitagawa state "The majority of the problems in statistical inference can be considered to be problems related to statistical modeling". [4] Relatedly, Sir David Cox has said, "How [the] translation from subject-matter problem to statistical model is done is often the most critical part of an analysis". [5] The conclusion of a statistical proposition. [6] Some common forms of statistical proposition are the following: a point estimate, i.e. a particular value that best
approximates some parameter of interest; an interval estimate, e.g. a confidence interval (or set estimate), i.e. an interval constructed using a dataset drawn from a population so that, under repeated sampling of such datasets, such intervals would contain the true parameter value with the probability at the stated confidence level; a credible interval, i.e. a set of values containing, for example, 95% of posterior belief; rejection of a hypothesis; note 1] clustering or classification of data points into groups. Main articles: Statistical model and Statistical inference requires some assumptions. A statistical model is a set of assumptions concerning the generation of the observed data and similar data. Descriptions of statistical models usually emphasize the role of population quantities of interest, about which we wish to draw inference.[7] Descriptive statistics are typically used as a preliminary step before more formal inferences are drawn.[8] Statisticians distinguish between three levels of modeling assumptions: Fully parametric: The probability distributions describing the data-generation process are assumed to be fully described by a family of probability distributions involving only a finite number of unknown parameters.[7] For example, one may assume that the distribution of population values is truly Normal, with unknown mean and variance, and that datasets are generated by 'simple' random sampling. The family of generalized linear models is a widely used and flexible class of parametric models. Non-parametric statistics and may be minimal.[9] For example, every continuous probability distribution has a median, which may be estimated using the sample median or the Hodges-Lehmann-Sen estimator, which has good properties when the data arise from simple random sampling. Semi-parametric: This term typically implies assumptions 'in between' fully and non-parametric approaches. For example, one may assume that a population distribution has a finite mean. Furthermore, one may assume that the mean response level in the population depends in a truly linear manner on some covariate (a parametric assumption) but not make any parametric assumption) but not make any parametric assumption) but not make any parametric assumption describing the variance around that mean (i.e. about the presence or possible form of any heteroscedasticity). often be separated into 'structural' and 'random variation' components. One component is treated parametrically and the other non-parametrically and the other non-parametrically. The well-known Cox model is a set of semi-parametrically, which car be illustrated through the even spread underneath the bell curve. Whatever level of assumption is made, correctly calibrated inference, in general, requires these assumptions of 'simple' random sampling can invalidate statistical inference.[10] More complex semi- and fully parametric assumptions are also cause for concern. For example, incorrectly assuming the Cox model can in some cases lead to faulty conclusions.[11] Incorrect assumptions of Normality in the population also invalidates some forms of regression-based inference.[12] The use of any parametric model is viewed skeptically by most experts in sampling human populations: "most sampling statisticians, when they deal with confidence intervals at all, limit theorem ensures that these [estimators] will have distributions that are nearly normal."[13] In particular, a normal distribution "would be a totally unrealistic and catastrophically unwise assumption to make if we were dealing with any kind of economic population."[13] Here, the central limit theorem states that the distribution is not heavy-tailed. Main articles: Statistical distance Asymptotic theory (statistics), and Approximation theory Given the difficulty in specifying exact distributions of sample statistics, many methods have been developed for approximation theory Given the difficulty in specifying exact distributions of sample with 10,000 independent samples the normal distribution approximates (to two digits of accuracy) the distribution of the sample mean for many population distributions, by the Berry-Esseen theorem. [14] Yet for many practical purposes, the normal approximation provides a good approximation to the sample-mean's distribution when there are 10 (or more) independent samples, according to simulation studies and statisticians' experience.[14] Following Kolmogorov's work in the 1950s, advanced statistics uses approximation. In this approach, the metric geometry of probability distributions is studied; this approach quantifies approximation error with, for example, the Kullback-Leibler divergence, Bregman divergence, and the Hellinger distance.[15][16][17] With indefinitely large samples, limiting distribution if one exists. Limiting results are not statements about finite samples, and indeed are irrelevant to finite samples.[18][19] [20] However, the asymptotic theory of limiting distributions is often invoked for work with finite samples. For example, limiting results are often invoked to justify the generalized method of moments and the use of generalized method of moments are often invoked to justify the generalized method of moments are often invoked to justify the generalized method of moments and the use of generalized method of moments are often invoked to justify the generalized method of moments are often invoked for work with finite samples. distribution and the true distribution (formally, the 'error' of the approximation) can be assessed using simulation.[21] The heuristic applications, especially with low-dimensional models with log-concave likelihoods (such as with one-parameter exponential families). Main article: Randomization See also: Random sample and Random assignment For a given dataset that was produced by a randomization design. In frequentist inference, the randomization allows inferences to be based on the randomization distribution rather than a subjective model, and this is important especially in survey sampling and design of experiments. [22][23] Statistical inference, randomization is also of importance: in survey sampling, use of sampling without replacement ensures the exchangeability of the sample with the population; in randomization allows properly inductive procedures. [28][29][30][31][32] Many statisticians prefer randomization-based analysis of data that was generated by well-defined randomization procedures.[33] (However, it is true that in fields of science with developed theoretical knowledge and experimental control, randomized e from randomized experiments are recommended by leading statistical authorities as allowing inferences with greater reliability than do observational study may be better than a bad randomized experiment. The statistical analysis of a randomized experiment may be based on the randomization scheme stated in the experimental protocol and does not need a subjective model.[37][38] However, at any time, some hypotheses cannot be tested using objective statistical models, which accurately describe randomized experiments or random samples. In some cases, such randomized studies are uneconomical or unethical. It is standard practice to refer to a statistical model, e.g., a linear or logistic models, when analyzing data from randomization scheme guides the choice of a statistical model. It is not possible to choose an appropriate model without knowing the randomization scheme guides the choice of a statistical model. It is not possible to choose an appropriate model without knowing the randomization scheme guides the choice of a statistical model. data from randomized experiments while ignoring the experimental protocol; common mistakes include forgetting the blocking used in an experimental unit with independent replicates of the treatment applied to different experimental units.[40] Model-free techniques provide a complement to model-based methods, which employ reductionist strategies of reality-simplification. The former combine, evolve, ensemble and train algorithms dynamically adapting to the contextual affinities of a process and learning the intrinsic characteristics of the observations.[41][42] For example, model-free simple linear regression is based either on: a random design, where the pairs of observations (X 1, Y 1), (X 2, Y 2),  $\cdots$ , (X n, Y n) {\displaystyle (X\_{1},Y\_{1}), (X\_{2},Y\_{1}), variables Y 1, Y 2, ..., Y n {\displaystyle Y {1}, Y  $_j \le y | X_j = x = D x (y)$ , which is independent of the index j {\displaystyle Y {1}, Y  $_j \le y | X_j = x$  independent of the index j {\displaystyle Y {1}, Y  $_j \le y | X_j = x = D x (y)$ the common conditional distribution D x (.) {\displaystyle D\_{x}(.)} relies on some regularity conditions, e.g. functional mean,  $\mu$  (x) = E (Y | X = x) {\displaystyle \mu (x) = E(Y | X = x) }, can be consistently estimated via local averaging or local polynomia fitting, under the assumption that  $\mu(x)$  {\displaystyle \mu (x)} is smooth. Also, relying on asymptotic normality or resampling, we can construct confidence intervals for the population feature, in this case, the conditional mean,  $\mu(x)$  {\displaystyle \mu (x)}. Main article: Frequentist inference This paradigm calibrates the plausibility of propositions by considering (notional) repeated sampling, the frequentist properties of a statistical proposition can be quantified-is characteristics under repeated sampling of a population distribution to produce datasets similar to the one at hand. By considering the dataset's characteristics under repeated sampling of a population distribution to produce datasets similar to the one at hand. although in practice this quantification may be challenging. p-value Confidence interval Null hypothesis significance testing One interpretation of frequentist inference (or classical inference) is that it is applicable only in terms of repeated sampling from a population. However, the
approach of Neyman[45] develops these procedures in terms of pre-experiment probabilities. That is, before undertaking an experiment, one decides on a rule for coming to a conclusion such that the probability need not have a frequentist or repeated sampling interpretation. In contrast, Bayesian inference works in terms of conditional probabilities (i.e. probabilities conditional on the observed data), compared to the marginal (but conditioned on unknown parameters) probabilities used in the frequentist approach. The frequentist procedures of significance testing and confidence intervals can be constructed without regard to utility functions. However, some elements of frequentist statistics, such as statistical decision theory, do incorporate utility functions. [citation needed] In particular, frequentist developments of optimal inference (such as minimum-variance unbiased estimators, or uniformly most powerful testing) make use of loss functions. Loss functions need not be explicitly stated for statistical theorists to prove that a statistical procedure has an optimality property.[46] However, loss-functions, in that they minimize expected loss, and least squares estimators are optimal under absolute value loss functions, in that they minimize expected loss. squared error loss functions, in that they minimize expected loss. While statisticians using frequentist inference must choose for themselves the parameters of interest, and the estimators/test statistic to be used, the absence of obviously explicit utilities and prior distributions has helped frequentist procedures to become widely viewed as 'objective'.[47] also: Bayesian inference The Bayesian calculus describes degrees of beliefs are positive, integrate into one, and obey probability; beliefs are positive, integrate into one, and obey probabi Credible interval for interval estimation Bayes factors for model comparison Many informal Bayesian inferences are based on "intuitively reasonable" summaries of the posterior mean, median and mode, highest posterior need not be stated for this sort of inference, these summaries do all depend (to some extent) on stated prior beliefs, and are generally viewed as subjective conclusions. (Methods of prior construction which do not require external input have been proposed but not yet fully developed.) Formally, Bayesian inference is calibrated with reference to an explicitly stated utility, or loss function; the 'Bayes rule' is the one which maximizes expected utility, averaged over the posterior uncertainty. Formal Bayesian inference can be made for essentially any problem, although not every statistical inference need have a Bayesian interpretation. Analyses which are not formally Bayesian can be (logically) incoherent; a feature of Bayesian inference must take place in this decisiontheoretic framework, and that Bayesian inference is a paradigm used to estimate the parameters of a statistical model based on observed data. Likelihoodism approaches statistics by using the likelihood function, denoted as L (x |  $\theta$ ) {\displaystyle L(x|\theta )}, quantifies the probability of observing the given data x {\displaystyle \theta }. In likelihood-based inference, the goal is to find the set of parameter values that maximizes the probability of observing the given data. The process of likelihood-based inference usually involves the following steps: Formulating the statistical model: A statistical model is defined based on the problem at hand, specifying the distributional assumptions and the relationship between the observed data and the unknown parameters. The model can be simple, such as a normal distribution with known variance, or complex, such as a hierarchical model with multiple levels of random effects. Constructed by evaluating the joint probability density or mass function of the unknown parameters. This function represents the probability of observing the data for different values of the parameters. Maximizing the likelihood function. This can be achieved using optimization techniques such as numerical optimization algorithms. The estimated parameter values, often denoted as y [\displaystyle {\bar {y}} , are the maximum likelihood estimates (MLEs). Assessing uncertainty: Once the MLEs are obtained, it is crucial to quantify the uncertainty associated with the parameter estimates. This can be done by calculating standard errors, confidence intervals, or conducting hypothesis tests based on asymptotic theory or simulation techniques such as bootstrapping. Model checking: After obtaining the parameter estimates and assessing their uncertainty, it is important to assess the adequacy of the statistical model. This involves checking the assumptions made in the model analysis, or graphical diagnostics. Inference and interpretation: Finally, based on the estimated parameters and model assessment, statistical inference can be performed. This involves drawing conclusions about the population parameters, making predictions, or testing hypotheses based on the estimated model. Main article: Akaike information criterion This section needs expansion. You can help by adding to it. (November 2017) The Akaike information criterion (AIC) is an estimator of the relative quality of statistical models for the data, AIC estimates the quality of statistical models for the data. Given a collection of model selection. AIC is an estimator of the relative quality of statistical models for the data. founded on information theory: it offers an estimate of the relative information lost when a given model is used to represent the process that generated the data. (In doing so, it deals with the trade-off between the goodness of fit of the model.) Main article: Minimum description length (MDL) principle has been developed from ideas in information theory [49] and the theory of Kolmogorov complexity.[50] The (MDL) principle selects statistical models that maximally compress the data; inference proceeds without assuming counterfactual or non-falsifiable "data-generating mechanisms" or probability models for the data, as might be done in frequentist or Bayesian approaches. However, if a "data generating mechanism" does exist in reality, then according to Shannon's source coding theorem it provides the MDL description length (or description length to maximum likelihood estimation is similar to maximum likelihood estimation approaches. and maximum a posteriori estimation (using maximum-entropy Bayesian priors). However, MDL avoids assumptions that e.g. the data arose from independent sampling.[51][52] The MDL principle has been applied in communication-coding theory in information theory, in linear regression,[52] and in data mining.[50] The evaluation of MDL-based inferential procedures often uses techniques or criteria from computational complexity theory.[53] Main article: Fiducial inference was an approach to statistical inference based on fiducial probability, also known as a "fiducial distribution" In subsequent work, this approach has been called ill-defined, extremely limited in applicability, and even fallacious.[54][55] However this argument is the same as that which shows[56] that a so-called confidence distribution is not a valid probability distribution and, since this has not invalidated the application of confidence intervals, it does not necessarily invalidate conclusions drawn from fiducial arguments. An attempt was made to reinterpret the early work of Fisher and of Pitman from 1938 to 1939,[58] George A. Barnard developed "structural inference" or "pivotal inference", or "pivotal inferenc [59] an approach using invariant probabilities on group families. Barnard reformulated the arguments behind fiducial inference on a restricted class of models on which "fiducial" procedures would be well-defined and useful. Donald A. S. Fraser developed a general theory for structural inference[60] based on group theory and applied this to linear models on which "fiducial" procedures would be well-defined and useful. [61] The theory formulated by Fraser has close links to decision theory and Bayesian statistical
inference. Statistical assumptions in theory Estimation theory Statistical hypothesis testing Revising opinions in statistics Design of experiments, the analysis of variance, and regression Survey sampling Summarizing statistical data Predictive inference is an approach to statistical inference is an approach to statistical data Predictive inference is an approach to statistical inference was based on past observations. Initially, predictive inference is an approach to statistical data Predictive inference was based on past observations. studying probability,[citation needed] but it fell out of favor in the 20th century due to a new parametric approach pioneered by Bruno de Finetti's idea of exchangeability—that future observations should behave like past observations—came to the attention of the English-speaking world with the 1974 translation from French of his 1937 paper,[63] and has since been propounded by such statisticians as Seymour Geisser.[64] Algorithmic inference Induction (philosophy) Informal inferential reasoning Information field theory Population proportion Philosophy of statistics Prediction interval Predictive analytics Predictive modelling Stylometry ^ According to Peirce, acceptance means that inquiry on this question ceases for the time being. In science, all scientific theories are revisable. ^ Upton, G., Cook, I. (2008) Oxford Dictionary of Statistics, OUP. ISBN 978-0-19-954145-4. ^ "TensorFlow Lite inference". The term inference refers to the process of executing a TensorFlow Lite model on-device in order to make predictions based on input data. ^ Johnson, Richard (12 March 2016). "Statistical Inference". Encyclopedia of Mathematics. Springer: The European Mathematical Society. Retrieved 26 October 2022. ^ Konishi & Kitagawa (2008), p. 75. ^ Cox (2006), p. 197. ^ "Statistical inference". Encyclopedia of Mathematics". www.encyclopediaofmath.org. Retrieved 2019-01-23. ^ a b Cox (2006) page 2 ^ Evans, Michael; et al. (2004). Probability and Statistics: The Science of Uncertainty. Freeman and Company. p. 267. ISBN 9780716747420. ^ van der Vaart, A.W. (1998) Asymptotic Statistics Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0-521-78450-6 (page 341) ^ Kruskal 1988 ^ Freedman, D.A. (2008) "Survival analysis: An Epidemiological hazard?". The American Statistician (2010)). ^ Berk, R. 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ISBN 978-0-387-73193-3. ^ Kolmogorov (1963, p.369): "The frequency concept, based on the notion of limiting frequency as the number of trials increases to infinity, does not contribute anything to substantiate the applicability of the results of probability theory to real practical problems where we have always to deal with a finite number of trials". ^ has to offer are limit theorems."(page ix) "What counts for applications are approximations, not limits." (page 188) ^ Pfanzagl (1994) : "By taking a limit theorem as being approximately true for large sample sizes, we commit an error the size of which is unknown. [...] Realistic information about the remaining errors may be obtained by simulations." (page 188) ix) ^ Neyman, J.(1934) "On the two different aspects of the representative method of stratified sampling and the method of purposive selection", Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, 97 (4), 557-625 JSTOR 2342192 ^ a b Hinkelmann and Kempthorne(2008) [page needed] ^ ASA Guidelines for the first course in statistics for non-statisticians (available at the ASA website) ^ David A. Freedman et alia's Statistics. ^ Moore et al. (2015). ^ Gelman A. et al. (2013). Bayesian Data Analysis (Chapman & Hall). ^ Peirce (1883) ^ Freedman, Pisani & Purves 1978. ^ David A. Freedman Statistical Models. ^ Rao, C.R. (1997) Statistics and Truth: Putting Chance to Work, World Scientific. ISBN 981-02-3111-3 ^ Peirce; Freedman; Moore et al. (2015).[citation needed] ^ Box, G.E.P. and Friends (2006), p. 196. ^ ASA Guidelines for the first course in statistics for non-statisticians. (available at the ASA website) David A. Freedman et alias Statistics. Moore et al. 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