

14 Mathematical Statistics Spring, 1997

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Textbook; R. Larsen and M. Marx, *Introduction to Mathematical Statistics and Its Applications*, 2nd edition, Prentice Hall, 1986.

Textbook is fine

Method of assessment (how many points for exams, quizzes, homework, etc):
tests worth 100 points plus a final worth 150 points plus
homework scaled to 5 points and used after letter grade
breaks have been decided. The 3 tests during the semester
plus a final is too much and breaks up the course too much---in the
future I recommend 2 tests and a final (and maybe a few quizzes).

For and large I did not use multiple choice questions, though for statistics
multiple choice makes sense since many of the students are preparing
for the actuary tests which are multiple choice.

I have enclosed my sheet with the list of homework assigned.
I gave a solid amount each class and the class worked hard.

Topics covered:

Joint densities

Independent random variables

Combining and transforming random variables

Max and min order statistics

Conditional densities

Expectation variance

Higher moments and moment generating functions

Chebyshev's inequality (very briefly)

The basic distributions (Poisson, normal, geometric, negative
binomial, gamma, exponential)--- a few classes were spent on the
normal---including the central limit theorem

Joint estimators (including efficiency and unbiasedness)

Minimum variance estimators and maximum likelihood estimation

interval estimation

hypothesis testing---type I and II errors, generalized likelihood ratio

the family of relatives to the normal distribution, i.e., chi-square, F, student

many hypothesis tests (single and multiple sample) for means and variances

confidence intervals

multinomial distribution and chi-square goodness of fit tests (degrees of freedom and estimating parameters)

chi-square tests of independence

covariance, correlation, and linear regression

least squares method

the linear model

the bivariate normal density

hypothesis tests related to the linear model

some simple nonparametric tests: the sign test and the Wilcoxon sign test

would normally have covered design of experiments, analysis

of variance (aka ANOVA), and I would have liked to have gone further in nonparametric statistics.