STAT806

Statistical Inference

S1 External 2016

Dept of Statistics

Contents

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General Information

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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MAppStat or PGDipAppStat or PGCertAppStat or GradDipAppStat or (ACST601 and ACST602 and ACST604)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit provides an introduction to likelihood-based statistical inference. After a brief discussion of the multivariable calculus concepts needed, students will study (multivariate) change of variable, the likelihood function and maximum likelihood estimation, using examples from a range of distributions. The theory of estimation and hypothesis testing will be discussed, including most powerful tests, large sample theory, the sufficiency principle, the likelihood ratio principle, and sequential probability ratio tests.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are

used.

Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.

Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.

Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Assignment 1	10%	18th March
Assignment 2	10%	29th April
Assignment 3	10%	27th May
Assignment 4	10%	3rd June
Final Exam	60%	TBA

Assignment 1

Due: **18th March**
Weighting: **10%**

Submit to the lecturer by 2pm on the due date. There is no "group work" assessment in this unit. All work is to be the student's own. No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the assignment prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the assignment, except for cases in which an application for disruption to studies is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:

• Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.

• Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.

• Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.

Assignment 2

Due: **29th April**
Weighting: **10%**

Submit to the lecturer by 2pm on the due date. There is no "group work" assessment in this unit. All work is to be the student's own. No extensions will be granted. Students who have not

submitted the assignment prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the assignment, except for cases in which an application for disruption to studies is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
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- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assignment 3

Due: **27th May**
Weighting: **10%**

Submit to the lecturer by 3pm on the due date. There is no "group work" assessment in this unit. All work is to be the student's own. No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the assignment prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the assignment, except for cases in which an application for disruption to studies is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
- Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.
- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assignment 4

Due: **3rd June**
Weighting: **10%**

The assignment will be available in week 4 and is not due until week 12, and will consist of questions on one set of models using the methodology of several of the topics.

Submit to the lecturer by 2pm on the due date. There is no "group work" assessment in this unit. All work is to be the student's own. No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the assignment prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the assignment, except for cases in which an application for disruption to studies is made and approved.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
- Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.
- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Final Exam

Due: **TBA**
Weighting: **60%**

The final Examination will be held during the mid-year Examination period. The final Examination is 3 hours long (with an additional 10 minutes' reading time). It will cover all topics in the unit. The final examination is closed book. Students may take into the final Exam **TWO** A4 pages of notes **handwritten (not typed)** on **BOTH** sides. Calculators will be needed but must not be of the text/ programmable type.

Students MUST perform satisfactorily in the final examination in order to pass the unit regardless of their performance throughout the semester.

The University Examination timetable will be available in Draft form approximately 8 weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in Final form approximately 4 weeks before the commencement of the examinations at: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/exam

The only exception to not sitting an examination on the designated date is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you may wish to consider applying for disruption to studies.

Your final grade in STAT806 will be based on your work during the semester and in the final examination. You need to achieve the same standards both during the semester assessments and the final exam to be awarded a particular grade as set out in the Grading Policy (http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html).

On successful completion you will be able to:
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- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their

properties.

Delivery and Resources

There are four contact hours per week, comprised of three lectures and one tutorial. Check the timetable for classes.

Please consult iLearn or the Unit webpage for details of consultation hours.

Technologies used and required

Lecture material will be placed on iLearn.

Students will need to use a calculator for the final examination and some of the other assessments.

Unit Schedule

Topic	Material covered
1	Probability, expectation, change of variable, moment generating functions, multivariate distributions, conditional expectation.
2	Estimation, the likelihood function, the maximum likelihood principle, properties of estimators, asymptotic properties of maximum likelihood estimators, the Cramér-Rao lower bound.
3	Statistics, sufficient statistics, completeness, minimum variance unbiased estimators, Rao-Blackwell theorem.
4	Hypothesis testing: simple, composite hypotheses, the Neyman-Pearson lemma, asymptotic properties.
5	The Sequential Probability Ratio Test
6	Confidence intervals and regions

Learning and Teaching Activities

Lecture

Three hours a week.

Tutorial

One hour a week.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html. For more information visit http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Grading Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
- Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.
- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3
- Assignment 4
- Final Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Three hours a week.
- One hour a week.

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based

critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
- Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.
- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3
- Assignment 4
- Final Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Three hours a week.
- One hour a week.

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Be able to understand the theoretical reasons why various estimators and tests are used.
- Be familiar with the derivations of estimators and tests.
- Be able to derive estimators and their theoretical small sample and asymptotic properties.
- Be able to generate tests for various statistical hypotheses, and establish their properties.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Assignment 3
- Assignment 4
- Final Exam

Learning and teaching activities

- Three hours a week.
- One hour a week.

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Final Exam

Learning and teaching activity

- Three hours a week.
- One hour a week.

Grading in this unit

Your final SNG and grade in STAT306 will be based on your work during semester and in the final examination as specified in the 'Assessment' section. The determination of your final SNG and Grade will be based on an assessment of your performance on individual assessment tasks against identified criteria and standards as set out in the section titled 'Assessment Criteria', and an assessment of overall performance in the unit. Final grades will be awarded on the basis of your overall performance and the extent to which you demonstrate fulfilment of the learning outcomes listed for this unit.

The relationship between SNGs and Final Grades is shown in the table below:

SNG.Range	Grade	Standard
85 - 100	High Distinction (HD)	Provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation tothe learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying,generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problemsolving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and theirimplications; creativity in application as appropriate to the discipline.

75 - 84	Distinction (D)	Provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.
65 - 74	Credit (Cr)	Provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; convincing argumentation with appropriate coherent justification; communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.
50 - 64	Pass (P)	Provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; routine argumentation with acceptable justification; communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes.
0 - 49	Fail (F)	Does not provide evidence of attainment of learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; missing, undeveloped, inappropriate or confusing argumentation; incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

Please note that a student must meet the performance standard outlined above in **both** the coursework **and** the examination sections of this unit in order to be awarded a particular grade.

Textbooks and other reference material

There is no prescribed textbook for the Unit. Any book with a title such as "Introduction to Mathematical Statistics" will be suitable as a reference. The reference for STAT273, Wackerly, D., Mendenhall W., and Scheaffer, R.L. Mathematical Statistics with Applications (4th, 5th or 6th Editions), would be useful. The lecture notes will be extensive and fairly self-contained.