Introductory Biostatistics for the Health Sciences: Modern Applications Including Bootstrap

Michael R. Chernick, Robert H. Friis
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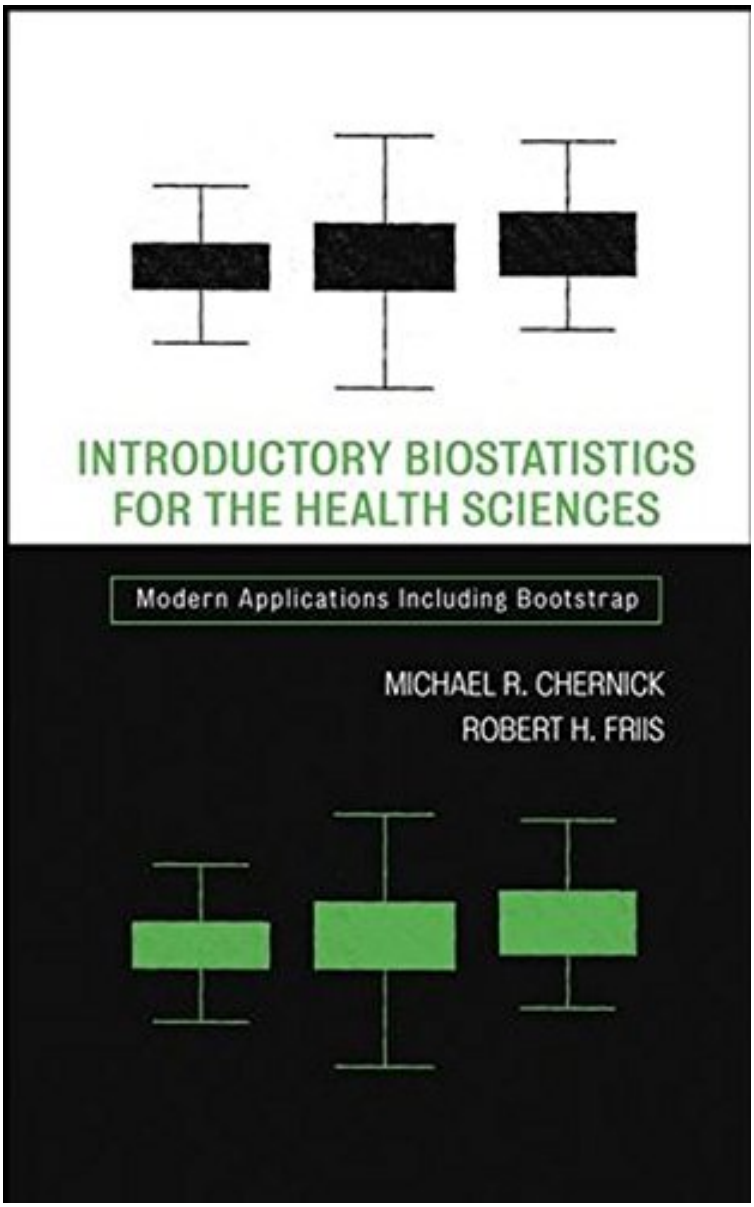

#2559117 in Books Michael R Chernick 2003-03-17Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.39 x 1.22 x 6.48l, 1.70 #File Name: 047141137X424 pagesIntroductory Biostatistics For The Health Sciences | File size: 42.Mb

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Introductory Biostatistics for the Health Sciences: Modern Applications Including Bootstrap:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Conceptual errors by the authors. Poor editing by Willey.By A readerWhen a colleague saw that I'd bought Intro to Biostats, she mentioned that she had found quite a few typos and that she had not been able to find a list of errata . I checked a couple of sections at random and found typos in them. In addition, the book format makes it hard to understand. Enumerations that would be very clear in a table are set within the paragraph. This would work for short enumerations (e.g. five or fewer possible outcomes), but not when there are 36 possible outcomes, much less when some of those 36 are excluded. In a table, it would be very clear which outcomes are excluded. With the enumeration within the paragraph, one has to remember outcomes already seen to be able to deduce which ones were excluded.Equations are a similar problem. Many long equations are not set between two paragraphs (as is done on most Maths. books). Instead the equations are part of the paragraph. An equation that takes three lines in a paragraph is difficult to grasp. I found myself writing the equations and enumerations to paper too often.Because of the (unnecessary) difficulty to read the book, I don't have yet an opinion on the quality of the material covered.The abundance of typos tells me that the authors did not proofread the book prior to publication. The setting of equations and enumeration within paragraphs tells me that the typesetter had never worked with books on mathematics and that the book was not reviewed by a potential user.These are not unsurmountable problems as many other Wiley books attest. A reprint is badly needed, but only after thorough proofreading by the authors and at least one review by at least one person who knows the field.While reading early chapters I began noticing conceptual errors. For example, in Section 4.3 the authors claim that the sum of three Poisson-distributed random variables is 'overdispersed', that is, the variance of the resulting variate is larger than the mean. For a Poisson distribution mean and variance are equal. Thus, according to the authors, the sum of three Poisson variates is not Poisson. However, if you check any probability book you'll find that the sum of any number of Poisson--distributed variates is also a Poisson variate.On Exercise 5.1 the authors incorrectly explain that dizygotic twins are one of each gender. However, they can be the same or different gender (This might be neat peaking since it has nothing to do with biostatistics).22 of 22 people found the following review helpful. A book that has a well balanced explanation with math and english.By A. ShankarBiostatistics textbooks usually either concentrate on the math or the explanations, and end up giving an unbalanced idea of the subject at hand.Texts that choose to have both as different modules, are generally large (therefore more or less reference), expensive and at times incoherent.I have come across a variety of texts dealing with the subject, from the popular Motulsky's book, Rosner, Dytham and even most of the Wiley series. I have found that this is one of those very few texts available that has a balanced explanation of stat with "the english of it" and "the maths of it".In general the book follows the same sequence as standard biostatistics courses offered at second year of university. However it assumes the reader knows very little, at that same token the book is not written in a conderscending manner.It is so well written that it can probably appeal to most readerships (undergraduate that is). It is not only an excellant primer but also a workable textbook.

Accessible to medicine- and/or public policy-related audiences, as well as most statisticians. Emphasis on outliers is discussed by way of detection and treatment. Resampling statistics software is incorporated throughout. Motivating applications are presented in light of honest theory. Plentiful exercises are sprinkled throughout.

readers will come away with a better understanding of biostatistics... (Statistical Methods in Medical Research, Vol.14, No.1, 2005) "a good textbook for an introductory course in biostatistics at the advanced undergraduate/beginning graduate levelcovers a broader variety of topics that is usually found in comparable textbooks" (The American Statistician, Vol. 58, No. 2, May 2004) "...lucid writing style and numerous real-world examples add to the book's appeal and value...complex subject uniquely accessible..." (Zentralblatt Math, Vol. 1028, 2004) ...the authors lucid writing style and numerous interesting real-world examples make a complex subject quite acc3essible to a diverse audience...I recommend this book to undergraduate statistics students, medical personnel, public health trainees, or nursing and medical students...would also make an excellent textbook for an introductory...biostatistics course. (Mathematical s, Issue 2004b) "...the book is most successful in meeting the needs of students..." (Technometrics, Vol. 45, No. 4, November 2003)From the Back CoverA uniquely accessible overview of statistics for the medical industry Statistics is a vital discipline with growing applications across many industries, especially the ever-evolving field of health care, where it plays an essential part in the design of new medical devices, the implementation and analysis of clinical trials, and various epidemiological studies. In todays modern age of computing, both statistical methodology and its applications are expanding as rapidly as the technology will allow, resulting in an upsurge of new developments and more effective methodologies. Introductory Biostatistics for the Health Sciences: Modern Applications Including Bootstrap addresses the need for a book that presents a basic, accurate, and up-to-date overview of statistical methodology as it applies to todays health care industry. The authors, both professionals in the areas of medical consulting and epidemiological research, provide balanced coverage of the

latest developments in the industry, liberally illustrated with real-world examples. Students and professionals will find this text helpful in several important ways: Presents motivating applications in light of honest theory Incorporates resampling statistics software throughout Discusses Outliers by way of detection and treatment Covers such recent statistical advances as bootstrapping Includes helpful exercises throughout A lucid writing style and numerous real-world examples add to the books appeal and value, and make a complex subject uniquely accessible to a diverse audience including medical personnel, public health trainees, as well as nursing and medical students.About the AuthorMICHAEL R. CHERNICK, PhD, is the Assistant Director of Biostatistics at Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in Princeton, New Jersey. He is the author of Bootstrap Methods: A Practitioner?s Guide. ROBERT FRIIS, PhD, is Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Science at California State University, Long Beach. He is senior author of Epidemiology for Public Health Practice and has published more than fifty papers related to epidemiology.