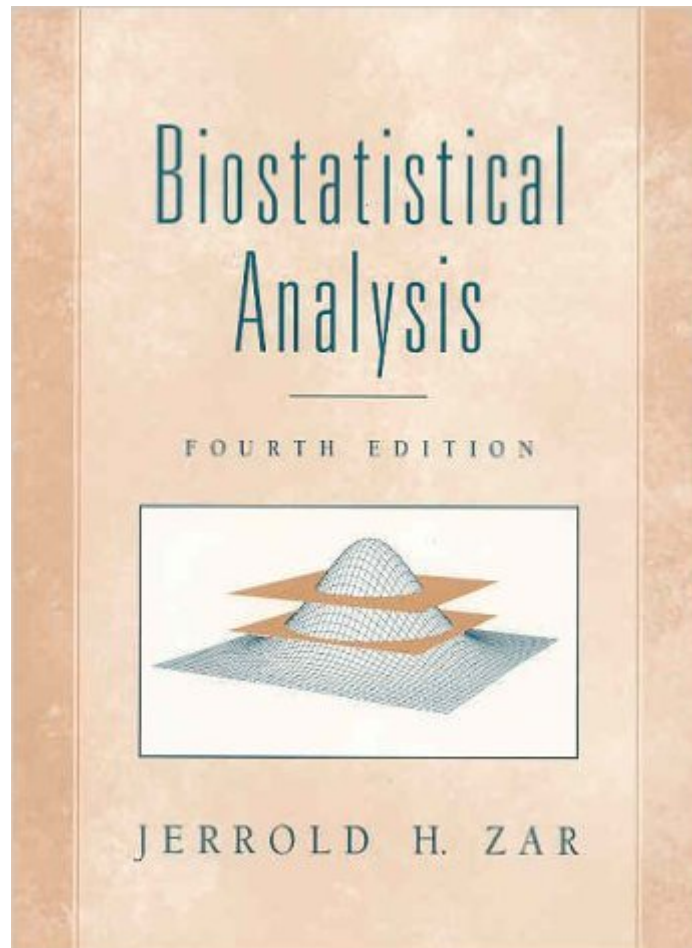


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Biostatistical Analysis (4th Edition)



Synopsis

The latest edition of this best-selling biostatistics book is both comprehensive and easy to read. It provides a broad and practical overview of the statistical analysis methods used by researchers to collect, summarize, analyze, and draw conclusions from biological research data. The Fourth Edition can serve as either an introduction to the discipline for beginning students or a comprehensive procedural reference for today's practitioners.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is popular because it is well written and authoritative. It is written for biologists, medical students and researchers who do not have any prior knowledge of probability or statistics and may have little mathematical training as well. It serves as an introductory text providing many homework exercises. It can also be used as a reference. It is very thorough and covers most of the important topics required for biological problems. The needed probability is introduced when necessary. There is the usual emphasis on hypothesis testing and regression. Correlation and analysis of variance are also very well covered. Important issues of sample size determination are covered and many solutions are provided in easy to use box descriptions. As the author points out in the preface, in order to make this text a good reference it is extensive (663 pages of text followed by appendices and a large number of tables). It also includes a wealth of useful reference articles and books. Consequently, there is too much material for a one semester course. The author provides instructors with guidelines for sections to cover in an introductory course. Notable topics covered in

this text that is rarely found in introductory biostatistics books include multivariate methods especially the multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA) and inference for circular data. Recent developments in meta analysis, Bayesian statistics and bootstrap methods are not covered. In fact, these topics are not covered at all. Also, the important topic of missing data is omitted. Outliers are only covered briefly and just a few references are given but the major references, the texts by Hawkins and the treatise of Barnett and Lewis are neglected.

Supplier: Prompt and received well ahead of schedule! Book: This is a classic. Some stated that it was high level, but I didn't see it that way. He provides great examples with good details on the exact calculations. One should be able to perform all calculations with any usual calculator or spreadsheet. He does not delve into any derivations or higher level math such as derivatives and integrals. In fact, the entire book is very practical. This book covers from Biostatistics approach which means that there is more dealing with the nonparametric side and more dealing with metrics for species, diseases, etc. not usually found in statistical texts. He covers that same areas as the usual texts, but adds better examples, detail calculations and includes good interpretations. The emphasis was more on "use" rather than subtle statistical basics for the methods. One of the great features was inclusion of Circular Statistics, which to date this is the only one I've come across that actually provides great coverage of this area. This is not covered in any texts that I've owned, except the original works by Mardia. And the examples are very good in how to use and applications. This area is surprisingly encountered more often than not and is always overlooked. I would buy this book just for that section alone. In fact this approach solves a lot of those periodic, seasonal variation problems I ran across in industry. Overall, he covers the usual stats, adds a lot of features (similarity, diversity, various indices, etc.), covers "random", added chapters on circular, added "intra-class correlation" which is also overlooked, and still covers the basic stats that all need to know.

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