

# Just Plain Data Analysis Finding Presenting And Interpreting Social Science Data

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drawing on the authors varied experiences working and teaching in the field analysis of multivariate social science data second editionenables a basic understanding of how to use key multivariate methods in the social sciences with updates in every chapter this edition expands its topics to include regression analysis con

society is changing it is becoming more diverse and digital social media today plays a central role in human communication with a changing society the way social scientists analyze it is also evolving in recent years it has become significantly more difficult to encourage people to participate in surveys furthermore digitization opens up data options that go beyond the survey method information published online represents valuable digital behavioral traces and provides social researchers with another important source of data alongside their scientific surveys which in recent years have increasingly been conducted online computational methods have played a central role in social research from the very beginning this applies today more than ever to data analysis but now also to data collection the increasing attention paid to machine learning methods in the statistical analysis of social science data represents a further remarkable development in the analysis of social science data this textbook addresses these developments and familiarizes readers with both elementary and more advanced methods of data analysis fundamentals and techniques of data management programming with r statistical data analysis descriptive and causal inference as well as predictive modeling are covered in depth all methods are exemplified using real data either from survey research the social media platform bluesky or a large digital newspaper archive thematically these data are focused on current sociological topics particularly those related to human happiness energy transition and climate policy ai political attitudes and the rise in right wing voting data science encompasses more than the algorithms required for data analysis and statistical learning no less relevant are the rules by which social research and data analysis are conducted data quality is ensured and the results are validated this textbook aims to provide this overview

an ideal textbook for complete beginners teaches from scratch r statistics and the fundamentals of quantitative social science data analysis for social science provides a friendly introduction to the statistical concepts and programming skills needed to conduct and evaluate social scientific studies assuming no prior knowledge of statistics and coding and only minimal knowledge of math the book teaches the fundamentals of survey research predictive models and causal inference while analyzing data from published studies with the statistical program r it teaches not only how to perform the data analyses but also how to interpret the results and identify the analyses strengths and limitations progresses by teaching how to solve one kind of problem after another bringing in methods as needed it teaches in this order how to 1 estimate causal effects with randomized experiments 2 visualize and summarize data 3 infer population characteristics 4 predict outcomes 5 estimate causal effects with observational data and 6 generalize from sample to population flips the script of traditional statistics textbooks it starts by estimating causal effects with randomized experiments and postpones any discussion of probability and statistical inference until the final chapters this unconventional order engages students by demonstrating from the very beginning how data analysis can be used to answer interesting questions while reserving more abstract complex concepts for later chapters provides a step by step guide to analyzing real world data using the powerful open source statistical program r which is free for everyone to use the datasets are provided on the book s website so that readers can learn how to analyze data by following along with the exercises in the book on their own computer assumes no prior knowledge of statistics or coding specifically designed to accommodate students with a variety of math backgrounds it includes supplemental materials for students with minimal knowledge of math and clearly identifies sections with more advanced material so that readers can skip them if they so choose provides cheatsheets of statistical concepts and r code comes with instructor materials upon request including sample syllabi lecture slides and additional replication style exercises with solutions and with the real world datasets analyzed looking for a more advanced introduction consider quantitative social science by kosuke imai in addition to covering the material in data analysis for social science it teaches diffs in diffs models heterogeneous effects text analysis and regression discontinuity designs among other things

big data and social science data science methods and tools for research and practice second edition shows how to apply data science to real world problems covering all stages of a data intensive social science or policy project prominent leaders in the social sciences statistics and computer science as well as the field of data science provide a unique perspective on how to apply modern social science research principles and current analytical and computational tools the text teaches you how to identify and collect appropriate data apply data science methods and

tools to the data and recognize and respond to data errors biases and limitations features takes an accessible hands on approach to handling new types of data in the social sciences presents the key data science tools in a non intimidating way to both social and data scientists while keeping the focus on research questions and purposes illustrates social science and data science principles through real world problems links computer science concepts to practical social science research promotes good scientific practice provides freely available workbooks with data code and practical programming exercises through binder and github new to the second edition increased use of examples from different areas of social sciences new chapter on dealing with bias and fairness in machine learning models expanded chapters focusing on machine learning and text analysis revamped hands on jupyter notebooks to reinforce concepts covered in each chapter this classroom tested book fills a major gap in graduate and professional level data science and social science education it can be used to train a new generation of social data scientists to tackle real world problems and improve the skills and competencies of applied social scientists and public policy practitioners it empowers you to use the massive and rapidly growing amounts of available data to interpret economic and social activities in a scientific and rigorous manner

an introductory textbook on data analysis and statistics written especially for students in the social sciences and allied fields quantitative analysis is an increasingly essential skill for social science research yet students in the social sciences and related areas typically receive little training in it or if they do they usually end up in statistics classes that offer few insights into their field this textbook is a practical introduction to data analysis and statistics written especially for undergraduates and beginning graduate students in the social sciences and allied fields such as economics sociology public policy and data science quantitative social science engages directly with empirical analysis showing students how to analyze data using the r programming language and to interpret the results it encourages hands on learning not paper and pencil statistics more than forty data sets taken directly from leading quantitative social science research illustrate how data analysis can be used to answer important questions about society and human behavior proven in the classroom this one of a kind textbook features numerous additional data analysis exercises and interactive r programming exercises and also comes with supplementary teaching materials for instructors written especially for students in the social sciences and allied fields including economics sociology public policy and data science provides hands on instruction using r programming not paper and pencil statistics includes more than forty data sets from actual research for students to test their skills on covers data analysis concepts such as causality measurement and prediction as well as probability and statistical tools features a wealth of supplementary exercises including

additional data analysis exercises and interactive programming exercises offers a solid foundation for further study comes with additional course materials online including notes sample code exercises and problem sets with solutions and lecture slides looking for a more accessible introduction consider data analysis for social science by elena llaudet and kosuke imai which teaches from scratch and step by step the fundamentals of survey research predictive models and causal inference it covers descriptive statistics the difference in means estimator simple linear regression and multiple linear regression

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