

The first midterm exam will be a take-home exam which will be made available in the Midterm 2 folder under the documents section of PWeb at 9am on Wednesday, April 26th and due at 11:59pm (uploaded to Gradescope) on Wednesday, May 3rd.

Content. The exam will be lightly cumulative, but with emphasis on the material covered since the first midterm. In particular, it will focus on Chapter 8 (8.4, 8.5), Chapter 9 (9.1, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7) and Section 12.6 of DeGroot and Schervish's *Probability and Statistics*. There will be some questions that ask you to use R.

Format. The exam is intended to take 3 hours to complete, although you may take up to 5 hours to complete it. These 5 hours do not need to be consecutive. You should monitor your own time, and record on the test your estimate for the total amount of time you actively worked on the exam.

Your solutions to the exam should be neatly written or typed. If you scan a handwritten assignment, be sure to review the legibility of your scan on Gradescope after you submit.

Resources. You may use any notes you've taken for this class, your work on any previous homework or daily assignments, lecture notes I've posted on the course website, the recorded lecture video from Monday 2/20 and DeGroot and Schervish's *Probability and Statistics* textbook, as well as Blitzstein's *Introduction to Probability* textbook.

For problems asking you to do analysis or perform computations using R, you may use either a local installation of R or the Grinnell R Studio server, and you may reference any of the R help files (available by typing `?functionname` in the console).

You may not use any other resources other than those listed above. If you have questions about whether a resource can be used, you are welcome to message me.

Preparation. The best preparation you can do for the exam is to organize your notes and/or homework to make finding information and examples as quick and efficient as possible. Beyond that, you should attempt to accurately assess what topics you have mastered and which you need to practice more. A good starting point is to review the list of objectives on each daily assignment. Another way to prepare is to create your own study guide with summaries of the important concepts, along with example problems you've designed and solved. Exam problems will be comparable in difficulty to those exhibited in class and assigned for homework. Some exam questions may be similar to problems you have seen before, while others will require you to synthesize your knowledge in new ways.

On the exam, you may be asked to do the following:

- Rephrase a key definition and/or theorem in your own words.
- Determine whether a given statement is true or false.
- Interpret or explain a statistics concept in everyday language.
- Sketch the proof of an important result discussed in class.
- Perform calculations using relevant techniques from the course.
- Provide a short, rigorous proof of a novel statement or result.
- Create and analyze a statistical model for a particular phenomenon.
- Use R to simulate a random phenomenon.

For extra practice, several additional review problems are printed below. Solutions to these problems can be found on the exams page of the course website. While these questions are representative of the typical scope and difficulty of individual exam questions, this review is not comprehensive, nor does it necessarily represent the total amount of time available for the exam.

Practice Problems.

- (1) Suppose X_1, \dots, X_n are a sample from $N(\theta, \sigma^2)$, where θ is unknown but σ^2 is known.
 - (a) Construct the shortest-length 0.95 confidence interval for θ .
 - (b) Suppose that θ has a prior distribution $N(\mu, \nu^2)$. Find the shortest length 0.95 posterior credible interval for θ .
 - (c) Show that as $\nu^2 \rightarrow \infty$, the interval in part (b) converges to the interval in part (a).
 - (d) Explain what this suggests about the relationship between the frequentist confidence interval and the bayesian credible interval, using the concept of *improper priors*.

- (2) Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a sample from $\text{Unif}(\theta - 0.5, \theta + 0.5)$ with θ unknown, and let $X = \sum X_i$
 - (a) Explain why the random variable $V = X - n\theta$ is pivotal.
 - (b) Find a function $r(v, \mathbf{x})$ for which $r(V, \mathbf{X}) = \theta$.
 - (c) Suppose Y_1, \dots, Y_n are iid $\text{Unif}(-0.5, 0.5)$, let $Y = \sum Y_i$, and let F be the CDF for Y . Use parts (a) and (b) to find a formula for a γ -level confidence interval for θ in terms of F . *Note: Y is not a named distribution that we've previously studied.*
 - (d) Use R to approximate $F^{-1}(0.025)$ and $F^{-1}(0.975)$ by simulating 10,000 samples from $\text{Unif}(-0.5, 0.5)$.
 - (e) Suppose $X = 25$ and $n = 50$. Find the endpoints of the observed 0.95-level confidence interval for θ .

- (3) Two college students collected data on the price of hardcover textbooks from two disciplinary areas: Mathematics and the Natural Sciences, and the Social Sciences. The data can be loaded into R by running the following code (Don't worry about interpreting what the code itself is doing).


```
bookprices <- read.csv("https://people.carleton.edu/~kstclair/data/BookPrices.csv")
books_ss <- subset(bookprices, Area == "Social Sciences")$Price
books_mns <- subset(bookprices, Area == "Math & Science")$Price
```

In particular, the vector `books_ss` contains a list of prices for Social Science texts, and the vector `books_mns` contains a list of prices for Math and Science texts. Let \bar{x}_{ss} denote the sample mean price of social science texts and let \bar{x}_{mns} denote the sample mean price of Math and Science texts.

 - (a) Compute \bar{x}_{ss} and \bar{x}_{mns} . Then compute the ratio $\frac{\bar{x}_{ss}}{\bar{x}_{mns}}$.
 - (b) Use bootstrapping to simulate 10^4 sample means from the sample of Social Science textbooks, and 10^4 sample means from the sample of Math and Natural Sciences textbooks. Visualize the approximate bootstrap distributions using histograms.
 - (c) Use the bootstrap statistics in the previous part to create 10^4 bootstrap statistics for the ratio of mean prices (social science / math and natural science). Create a histogram of the approximate bootstrap distribution.
 - (d) Create a 95% bootstrap percentile interval for the ratio of the means. What does this interval suggest about the true ratio?
 - (e) Use your approximate bootstrap distribution to estimate the standard deviation and the bias of $\frac{\bar{x}_{ss}}{\bar{x}_{mns}}$ as an estimator for the true ratio of mean prices. Approximately what proportion of the mean squared error of $\frac{\bar{x}_{ss}}{\bar{x}_{mns}}$ is due to bias?

- (4) Suppose that a single observation X is obtained from $\text{Unif}(0, \theta)$ with θ unknown. Consider hypotheses

$$H_0 : \theta = 1 \quad H_1 : \theta = 2$$

- (a) Specify a test of the above hypotheses with size of 0, but also power of 0.
 - (b) Specify a test of the above hypotheses with size of 0, but with power strictly greater than 0.
 - (c) For the same hypotheses, consider a procedure which rejects when $X \geq 0.5$. What is the size and power of this test?
 - (d) For the same hypotheses, specify a size 0.05 test with power strictly greater than 0.5.
- (5) Let \mathbf{X} be a random sample from a distribution with unknown parameter θ , and suppose that for each value θ_0 of θ , and each number $0 \leq \alpha_0 \leq 1$, there exists a level α_0 test procedure δ_{θ_0} of the hypotheses

$$H_0 : \theta \geq \theta_0 \quad H_1 : \theta < \theta_0$$

For each possible value \mathbf{x} of the \mathbf{X} , define a set $\omega(\mathbf{x})$ by

$$\omega(\mathbf{x}) = \{\theta_0 : \delta_{\theta_0} \text{ rejects } H_0 \text{ when } \mathbf{x} \text{ is observed}\}$$

- (a) Prove that $\omega(\mathbf{X})$ is a $1 - \alpha_0$ confidence set for θ .
- (b) Suppose that $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim N(\theta, 1)$, and consider procedures $\{\delta_{\theta_0}\}$ which reject H_0 when $\bar{X} \leq c_{\theta_0}$, where c_{θ_0} is chosen so that δ_{θ_0} is a size α_0 test. Give an explicit description of $\omega(\mathbf{x})$ as an interval; i.e. explain why $\omega(\mathbf{x})$ is an interval, rather than some other type of set, and specify the random variable(s) that determine the endpoints of the interval.