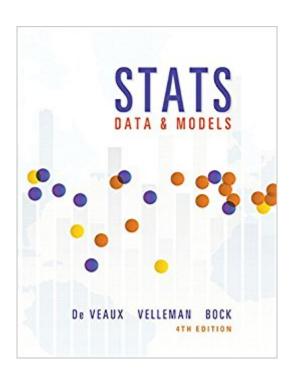
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Stats: Data And Models (4th Edition)





Synopsis

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I never thought that I would enjoy a math textbook. But this book is written to be really

understandable, interesting and even funny! I am not a math person, but I found myself really enjoying Statistics, in large part because of this book. I definitely recommend it!

This is a fantastic Stat textbook. It's pretty much the only textbook I can actually sit down and read like a novel; it's a pleasure to read and is written very conversationally. The examples are great and presented in a very clear and easy-to-understand manner. I originally bought this for a specific class, but this textbook could help your understanding of Statistics whether it's your class' textbook or not. I highly recommend it.

First off, if you never taken statistics before, this is not the easy stats of simple dice and poker probabilities. Treat any stats course that uses this book with the same respect as a calculus course (i.e. it's a bad idea to take stats and calc in the same semester). The first few chapters start light, mostly explaining normal distributions, correlation, regression, etc; easy enough. After a few chapters you start dealing with geometric, binomial, and Poisson distributions, which is a little bit harder, but doable. This is about where you have to remember a lot of formulas (e.g. formula for standard deviation is different for each distribution: it's sqrt(q/p^2), sqrt(npq), sqrt(lambda), respectively). And by around chapter 20 and onwards the material is really thick (at least for me); so keep up. The book is 31 chapters long (your class may not cover the whole book; our class only went up to 26); each chapter being about 30 pages long, not counting end of chapter notes and exercises. Language of the book is easy to understand; not overly technical, mostly plain English. At the end of any chapter containing calculations, there's a section on how to do the calculations on different technology (TI-83/84, TI-89, SPSS, and other software). Pay extra attention to this section, it'll make your life easier (way faster than hand calculating) if your professor allows technology in the classroom. The back of the book contains answers for odd-number questions, and also various stats tables (for those who prefer hand calculations). Also note, the book contains yellow highlights that's printed by the publisher; don't worry, no one marked up the book you bought. I guess the author wanted to be extra sure that you knew which points were the important ones.

As the authors point out at the beginning, this is a textbook that needs to be read. The best part is that the book is very readable. It's not just a list of definitions and formulas and then some boring examples. The authors help you to understand why you are doing what you are doing, what it really means, and how it connects to the real world. They have taken great care to provide interesting examples and follow them through from one concept to the next. I used to dread Stats, but this

textbook has made the topic interesting and exciting because now Stats finally makes sense. I highly recommend this book.

The authors state categorically in the introduction that this is a text to be read from start to finish in sequential order and while that might sound like a daunting task, the book is extremely easy to digest and the investment of time is well rewarded. The book is elegantly simple but extremely well structured. For those that want the maths proofs of things, these are contained in side boxes, while the practical 'how and why' are clearly and simple spelt out in the text. The layout is a delight. All the important bits are already highlighted and where a picture speaks a thousand words, there's a picture. I returned to studying Statistics after 25 years (having only done a typical Stage 1 introductory course in the first place), and this book brought me up to speed quickly and provided a sound foundation for more advanced study in the topic. I cannot recommend it highly enough.

For a math textbook, the authors did a good job of making it enjoyable. Due to a bad professor, I found myself consulting the textbook a lot. The footnotes might be the best. They did a good job taking a dull subject and keeping it entertaining and the examples concise yet complete. However, there are grammar errors all over! I guess the editors were only math editors.

The text is usually good and understandable but the exercise parts are partly dubious. It's often hard to solve the problems by yourself. The book comes with the solutions for all odd numbered tasks but they lack explanations how to get to the desired results. Try to solve the problems in chapter 17 (Probability Models) and you will see what I mean. I bought this older edition because the new one was too expensive. In comparison, however, there is not much of a difference. A few new tasks are added, others revised, or eliminated in the new edition, but not significantly.

Good, sturdy cover. I wanted the cheaper version so I bought used so it had highlighting in it but whatever. The highlights can help haha Needed it for school, half the price of the one offered at school. So glad.

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