

Organisation of the seminar class

Assistants:

Alain Hauser, HG G10.2

Fabio Sigrist, HG G11

Jonas Peters, HG G14.2

Contact email: compstat@stat.math.ethz.ch

Internet:

All information concerning the lecture and exercises (please note the sub page “exercises”) can be found at <http://stat.ethz.ch/education/semesters/ss2012/CompStat>.

Lecture attestation and exam:

To get a grade (and the corresponding ECTS credit points) for our lecture, you have to take the written exam. This exam will include tasks to be solved on a computer with *R*. No course attendance confirmation is required to subscribe for the exam.

Doctoral students who need (part of the) credit points, but who do not require a grade should talk to Martin Mächler at the beginning of the semester.

Exercises:

We strongly recommend to solve the exercises during the semester. Although there is no need to get a course attendance confirmation, you are welcome to hand in the solutions to your exercises. We will correct your answers given that you respect our hand-in policy.

On Thursdays, new exercise series will be available on the course webpage; please print them out and bring them to the exercise class on Friday. During the exercise sessions on Friday mornings, a teaching assistant will give you hints to solve the new exercise sheet. The exercises from the previous week are discussed. The teaching assistant can also recapitulate part of the material covered during the lecture if this is requested. We'll do our best to adapt the exercise sessions according to your feedback and needs.

The last 30 minutes of each exercise session will be reserved for student questions, especially regarding the exercise sheets or *R* problems. If you have concrete *R* questions, you can bring your own laptop to the exercise class to discuss problems with the teaching assistant.

Hand-in policy

1. Do not use any other software than *R* for the statistical calculations.
2. The solutions must be handed in either during the seminar class or in the tray *Computational Statistics* in the room HG J68. Solutions sent by email will **not** be corrected.
3. Print out your plots and relevant *R*-output. Add your interpretation of the results. We are (almost) more interested in what you conclude based on the obtained results, than on the numbers *per se*. A very elegant way to hand in your solution is to combine everything in a single file (for example by generating a pdf with L^AT_EX or OpenOffice).
4. Upload your *R*-code to the LEMUREN web-interface. Don't print out your *R*-code to hand it in. Don't email it to us.
5. Only well-documented and commented code uploaded to LEMUREN will be corrected.

Working with *R* and LEMUREN

A tutorial introducing *R* and the web-interface LEMUREN is available on the web page of this lecture.

Solutions

The solutions to the exercises (PDF files) will be sent weekly by e-mail to the students enrolled for this course.

Programming problems with *R*

If you run into programming problems with *R* while solving your exercises, we will do our best to help you. In order to provide useful advice quickly, we ask you to:

1. Use clearly structured and well documented *R*-script files. Upload the code section to the web-interface LEMUREN. This code must be self-contained (i.e. executable in a new *R* session).
2. Only upload code which is relevant and needed to understand the problem. Do not attach code for the whole exercise.
3. Try to generate simple examples documenting your problem instead of the sometimes large amount of code which is needed to solve the exercise. Simple examples will sometimes also help you to solve the problem yourself.

Questions:

You can always ask questions to the lecturer and tutors during the class and the exercise session. You can also contact us by email at compstat@stat.math.ethz.ch. Short questions will be answered via email, for more complex ones we will arrange an appointment.