

Organisation of the exercise class

Assistants:

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All information concerning the lecture and exercises (please note the sub page “exercises”) can be found at <https://stat.ethz.ch/education/semesters/ss2016/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 you to solve the exercises series during the semester. Although there is no need to get a course attendance confirmation, you are welcome to hand in your solutions. We will correct your answers given that you respect our hand-in policy.

Every Thursday a new exercise series will be made available on the course webpage; please print it and bring it to the exercise class on the next day. The exercise class on Friday will be divided in 2 parts. During the first part, the assistant will discuss the new exercise series. Part of the material covered during the lecture can also be recapitulated if this is requested. During the second part, the assistant will give you back the (corrected) solutions you submitted the previous exercise class. He/she will give you individual feedback and answer questions regarding this exercise series. You can also ask questions regarding R or the material of the lecture. If you have concrete R questions, you can bring your own laptop to the exercise lecture and ask them directly to the 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 exercise class or in the tray *Computational Statistics* in the room HG J68 on the same day.
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). An easy way to do this is to use R-Markdown! see the tutorial <https://stat.ethz.ch/education/semesters/ss2016/CompStat/Exercises/rmarkdown.pdf>.
4. If you have some questions related to R, use NEMESIS to submit your R-code, or a R Markdown document. Please indicate your name and NEMESIS key (see next point) on your sheets.
5. Copy and paste your R-code to the NEMESIS web-interface (<http://nemesi3.ethz.ch/dkabe/n>). Don't print out your R-code to hand it in.
6. Only well-documented and commented code uploaded to NEMESIS will be corrected.

Working with R and NEMESIS

A tutorial introducing R and the web-interface NEMESIS 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. Send a message via NEMESIS to indicate that you have run into problems.
2. Use clearly structured and well documented R -script files. Copy and paste the code section (where you encountered problems) to the web-interface NEMESIS. This code must be self-contained (i.e. executable in a new R session).
3. Only upload code which is relevant and needed to understand the problem. Do not attach code for the whole exercise.
4. 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 assistants during the lecture and exercise class. 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.