



Statistical Analysis with Missing Data Using Multiple Imputation and Inverse Probability Weighting (ws14-4)

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Faculty

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Introduction

Missing data are ubiquitous in observational and experimental research. They lead to a loss of statistical power, but more importantly, may introduce bias into the analysis. In this course we adopt a principled approach to handling missing data, in which the first step is a careful consideration of suitable assumptions regarding the missing data for a given study and analysis. Based on this, appropriate statistical methods can be identified that are valid under the chosen assumptions. The course will focus particularly on the practical use of multiple imputation (MI) to handle missing data in realistic epidemiological and clinical trial settings, but will also include an introduction to inverse probability weighting methods and new developments which combine these with MI.

This course is aimed at epidemiologists, biostatisticians and other health researchers with quantitative skills and some experience in statistical analysis. Stata® will be used for the computer practicals, and so familiarity with the package is desirable, although code and solutions will be provided.

Course objectives

- To provide an introduction to the issues raised by missing data, and the associated statistical jargon (missing completely at random, missing at random, missing not at random)
- To illustrate the shortcomings of ad-hoc methods for 'handling' missing data
- To introduce multiple imputation for statistical analysis with missing data
- To compare and contrast this with other methods, in particular inverse probability weighting and doubly robust methods, and
- To introduce accessible methods for exploring the sensitivity of inference to the missing at random assumption

Through computer practicals using Stata®, participants will learn how to apply the statistical methods introduced in the course to realistic datasets.

What you have to bring

Students will bring their own portable computers. A course license of Stata® will be available if required, to be installed by University of Bern IT staff on arrival.

Outline of course

The course will run over three days and consist of lectures, group work and computer practicals. We start early in the morning with a review of the previous day. During the extended break in the afternoon participants review course materials, catch up on emails or go skiing. We reconvene at 5 pm for the computer sessions.

Course book

Carpenter, J. R. and Kenward M. G. (2013) *Multiple Imputation and its Application*, Chichester: Wiley.

Maximum number of participants

The maximum number of participants on this course will be 25.

Course fee (includes course book)

Academic: CHF 950

Industry: CHF 1550

Course hotels

See www.epi-winter-school.ch