

# Re-visiting Introductory Statistics: What Do We Really Need?

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# Decisions, Decisions ...

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- Our education system provides no training in how to compare competing risks ...



(Each condition implies the other.) The independence of the observations then permits factorization of the probability of the event on the right:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{(n)} \leq y) &= P(X_1 \leq y, \dots, \text{and } X_n \leq y) \\ &= P(X_1 \leq y) \cdots P(X_n \leq y) = [F(y)]^n. \end{aligned}$$

In much the same fashion one can obtain the c.d.f. of the  $k$ th smallest observation in terms of the population c.d.f.:

$$\begin{aligned} P[X_{(k)} \leq y] &= P(k \text{ or more of the } n \text{ observations are } \leq y) \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^n \binom{n}{j} [F(y)]^j [1 - F(y)]^{n-j}, \end{aligned}$$

the individual terms in this sum being probabilities that in  $n$  independent trials precisely  $j$  result in an observation that does not exceed  $y$ . [The individual trials are of the Bernoulli type with  $p = F(y)$ .]

The density function of  $X_{(k)}$  can be obtained from the above distribution function by differentiating with respect to  $y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_{(k)}}(y) &= \sum_{j=k}^n \binom{n}{j} j [F(y)]^{j-1} f(y) [1 - F(y)]^{n-j} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=k}^n \binom{n}{j} (n-j) [F(y)]^j [1 - F(y)]^{n-j-1} [-f(y)] \end{aligned}$$

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- There is a risk of repeating the same mistake with computation.
- The math was next to useless for most learners ... ditto coding via R, Python ...

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  - 5 Communication of data and statistical ideas.

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- We learn by doing, but “drill” in applying useful statistical concepts is labour-intensive.