Statistics: is a systematic method for drawing conclusions from data with variability the scientific study of how to: collect data (design) summarize data (description) draw conclusions and make predictions from incomplete data (estimation, inference, prediction)			
A: My model for scientific investigations: Question $\longrightarrow$ Data $\longrightarrow$ Conclusion Design Analysis	n		
<ul> <li>Five components: design, description, estimation, inference, prediction</li> <li>Design: How to collect data (not a focus in this class)</li> <li>Description: describing patterns in the sample</li> <li>Estimation: estimating population quantities from sample statistics</li> <li>Inference (p 8): "conclusion that patterns in the data are present in some broader context"</li> <li>Statistical Inference:</li> <li>"above justified by a probability model linking the data to a broader context"</li> <li>Prediction: predicting characteristics, e.g., values, of new observations</li> </ul>			
<b>B:</b> Usual terminology (p 19): Population / parameter; Sample / statistic			
Probability model connects sample to the population Depends on how data are collected			
<ul><li>Data are presumed to come from some random mechanism.</li><li>Design-based: estimation and inference justified only by study design,</li><li>i.e. only on how data collected.</li><li>Model-based: presume a model for the random mechanism.</li></ul>			

Design-based: two possible random mechanisms: Choice of units: random, haphazard, or arbitrary Assignment of treatments to units: randomly or not

Four types of studies: (book display 1.5)

	Treatment assignment		
Choice of units	Random	Not	
Random	experiment (rare)	survey	
Not	experiment	observation	

C: Random assignment of treatments really matters: retraction/re-publication of Med. diet study

Surveys seem simple: just ask questions. Actually very difficult to do well

Literary Digest 1936 "survey"

**D**: What are we interested in?: location, spread, shape

Notation:  $\Sigma$ : sum,  $X_i$ : i'th observation

Graphical portrayals of the data: dot plots, histograms, box plots

Numerical measures:

**E:** Location: mean:  $\overline{X} = \Sigma X_i/n$ , median: 1/2 above, 1/2 below

How choose?

traditional: do what your group has always done

better: does it matter? symmetric distributions: no. use mean: more precise if does: what's the question? total  $\Rightarrow$  mean, typical individual  $\Rightarrow$  median.

**F:** Spread: sample variance:  $s^2 = \Sigma (X_i - \overline{X})^2 / (n-1)$ standard deviation:  $s = \sqrt{\text{Variance}}$ coefficient of variation, cv:  $s/\overline{X}$ , measures relative variation.

G: Inference: two types: Confidence interval, hypothesis test

Can be based on how the data were collected (design-based inference)

Or on a probability model for the data (model-based inference)

Spoiler: multiple opinions and lots of controversy.

Lots of tricky epistemological and practical issues. I give the traditional approach

## **H**: Hypothesis test:

Assume something (null hypothesis) and ask whether observations are unusual p-value: probability of observing data or something more extreme given null hypothesis Does not prove null hypothesis or show that alternative more probable than null.

Scale of evidence: Display 2.12

p > 0.10: no evidence against null, (not: "null is true", e.g., not: "X has no effect") 0.05 : weak evidence for the alternative<math>0.01 : (moderate) evidence for the alternative<math>0.001 : strong evidence for the alternative<math>p < 0.001: (convincing) very strong evidence for the alternative

"All we know about the world teaches us that the effects of A and B are always different - in some decimal place - for any A and B. Thus asking "are the effects different?" is foolish" (John Tukey)

I: Randomization test: design-based inference

randomly reassign labels, compute S = statistic of interest (e.g., difference in means) p = P[observed S as or more extreme than random S], e.g.,Compare means of two populations, choose  $S = |\overline{Y}_A - \overline{Y}_B|$  $p = P[\text{observed } |\overline{Y}_A - \overline{Y}_B| \ge \text{ random } |\overline{Y}_A - \overline{Y}_B]$