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RESEARCH ARTICLE

STATISTICS FOR EVERYONE

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ABSTRACT

Books are the principal tools of the profession of education. This hand book is useful for the beginners to get interest in the field of statistics. Statistics is a branch of mathematics concerned with the interpretation of large data or vague data into a more scientific and systematic understanding to draw a finite decision. This book is not intended as any prescribed text book for some course in mathematical sciences but is likely to be useful supplementary reading for everyone at undergraduate level as it creates awareness about the need of statistics in the reader as the title suggests.

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INTRODUCTION

Book is the scribed-structure meant for understanding the insights produced in the desired format. The current book entitled 'statistics for everyone' reviewed is authored by the teachers from Pune, Maharashtra, with the objective of creating awareness on the benefits of application of statistics in understanding day-to-day life instances with jargon-free language. It has 160 pages. It is divided into three sections describing (i) the need of numeracy for everyone (ii) Some applications of statistical methods and (iii) statistics education. These three sections are subdivided into small fragment chapters with a total of 30 chapters. Initially there is description related to the differences between elaborate & vague data and condensation of the data into more effective graphical summary which makes the reader realise the importance of using pictorial presentation. Basic statistical techniques of central tendencies are depicted with simple illustrations but the detailed calculations are lacking as they draw to the conclusions directly. Exceptional grammatical mistakes are traced which are less than 1% in the first section. Some of the examples quoted for interpretation of the data goes astray nevertheless many of such instances provoke thinking process among the readers.

There are exercise problems quoted at the end of chapters for practice. The diagrams and graphs could have been more systematic in terms of fonts and dots. The tabular columns could have been more vivid. The book focuses the common man to get to know the live examples with applications based on the experiences arise in the Indian context. The exposition is informal. The detailed analytical part may not be seen in the text but with the references quoted, one can avail the technical papers for more studies. The book communicates to the readers with a conviction that the core of statistics is not the formulas alone but logical ideas.

Several case studies are described in the second section on malaria, paper wasps, birds' thinking, quantification of tigers, various other organisms in the wild, adaptive sampling of estimating number of species in an ecosystem, weather forecasting, harvesting strategy, market research, measuring writing skills and speech language analysis which are the interesting models. It makes the reader to think that simple relevant issues can also be studied statistically with evidences to derive appreciable concrete conclusions. The third section is meant for the statistics teachers and students as well. It emphasizes the importance of inclusiveness in the syllabi, suggesting changes in the syllabus, practical exercises, consultancy, e-learning approach and various software such as SPP & SPSS, crop insurance, illustrative data sets and reference books as well. The clinical trials, problems of statistics education in India, and innovative teaching ideas including practical approaches have been described

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systematically and are catchy. The book clearly describes the two facets of stats; 'statistics for information' and 'statistics for inference'. Such book finds a general category list of books which takes the reader from general to specific probing tendency in the interest of Statistics.

The fundamentals of statistics are justified in the book. As a reader I give four stars (****) to this book and three stars (***) as a reviewer in the five star scale.

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