Welcome to Statistics

Dale Easley
University of Dubuque

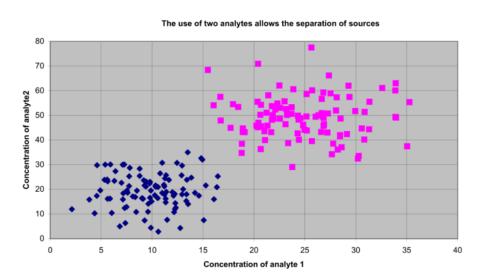


Statistics is a useful tool, not an end in itself.

"Statistics is a lively and fascinating subject, but studying it is too often excruciatingly dull."

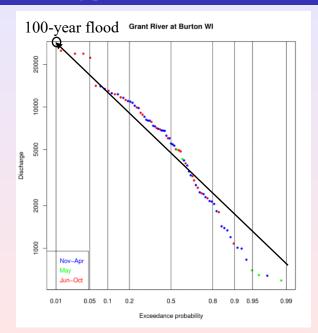
Wallis and Roberts, Statistics, a New Approach

Descriptive statistics: Looking for patterns

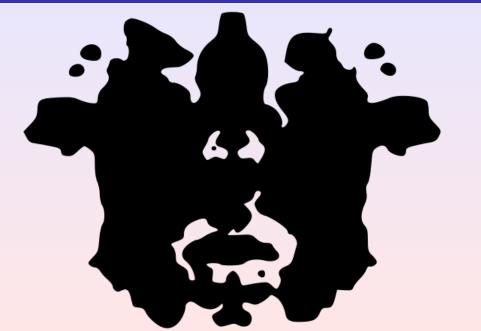


Inferential statistics: making predictions

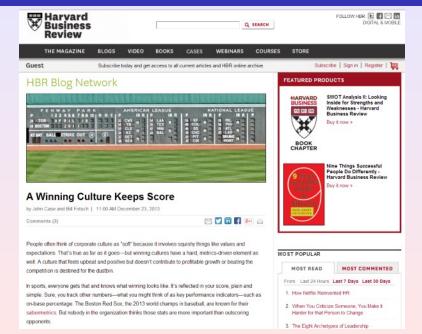
- Probability model
- Estimate
- Classification
- Confidence intervals
- Hypothesis testing



What do you see?



Determine what matters

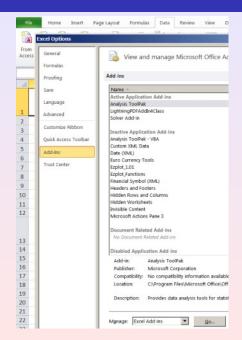


Statistics gives us the tools to distinguish reality from wishful thinking



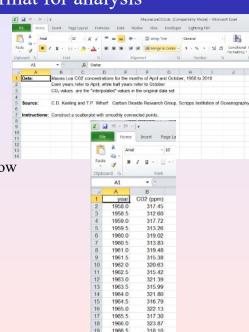
Now, the tools

- Under File → Options → Add-ins locate and load Analysis ToolPak
- A new menu item now shows up as Data with Data Analysis on the ribbon.
- We'll discuss together using this toolpak.



Putting data in Excel: Format for analysis

- Variables each in a column
- Short header on top row
- Cases/observation each in a row
- Information about data on a separate tab
- In-class exercise!



1967.0

324.42

Old Faithful data set

- 1. What is the average time between eruptions?
- 2. What was the longest time recorded between eruptions? The shortest?
- 3. Create a histogram of eruptions.
- 4. How long does an eruption usually last?
- 5. How can we best predict the time to the next eruption?

